



Environmental Management Strategy

New England Solar Farm – Stage 1 2x200MW AC

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Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	5
1.1	Approved Project	5
1.1.1	General project description	5
1.2	Applicant	7
1.3	EPC Contractors	7
1.4	Strategy Function	7
1.5	Structure	9
1.6	Strategy Review and Revision	9
2	STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK	10
2.1	Environmental Strategy	10
2.2	Environmental Strategies, Plans and Programs	11
3	STATUTORY APPROVALS	14
4	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	16
4.1	Development Applicant	16
4.1.1	Ultimate Responsibility	16
4.1.2	Website	16
4.2	GLC	17
4.3	UGL	17
4.4	Future Responsibilities	17
4.5	Training, awareness and competence	17
4.5.1	Environmental induction	17
4.5.2	Toolbox talks, training and awareness	18
4.5.3	Environmental awareness training	18
5	COMMUNICATION	19
5.1	Internal communication	19
5.1.1	Daily onsite communication	19
5.1.2	Monthly environmental inspections	19
5.1.3	Monthly project review meetings	19
5.2	Access to Information	19
6	COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT	22
6.1	Scope	22
6.2	Means of Making a Complaint	22
6.3	How any Complaint will be Handled	22
6.3.1	Construction	22
6.3.2	Operation	22
6.4	Recording Complaints	23
6.4.1	Complaints Register	23
6.4.2	NESF Communications Document	23
7	DISPUTE RESOLUTION	24
7.1	Commitment	24
8	NON-COMPLIANCE	25
8.1	Commitment	25

8.2	Response	25
8.3	Corrective Action.....	25
8.4	Notification.....	25
9	INCIDENT MANAGEMENT.....	27
9.1	Material Harm	27
9.2	Immediate Response.....	27
9.3	External Notifications	27
9.3.1	Duty to Report	27
9.3.2	Notifications.....	27
9.4	Incident Investigation.....	28
9.4.1	Avoid Recurrence.....	28
9.4.2	Restoration	28
9.5	Incident Reporting.....	29
9.5.1	Documentation	29
9.5.2	Dissemination	29
10	EMERGENCY RESPONSE.....	30
11	ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING.....	31
12	REFERENCES	32
APPENDIX A UPC\AC RENEWABLES ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY		33
APPENDIX B GLC ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY		34
APPENDIX C UGL/CIMIC ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY.....		35
APPENDIX D DEVELOPMENT CONSENT SSD 9255		36
APPENDIX E MONITORING SCHEDULE		37

List of Tables

Table 1-1 Key components of the NESF	5
Table 1-2 EMS Structure	9
Table 2-1 Environmental Strategies, Plans and Programs	13
Table 3-1 Statutory approvals.....	14
Table 4-1 Roles and responsibilities of key personnel.....	16
Table 5-1 Engagement delivery method for each stakeholder group	20
Table 8-1 Non-compliance Response	25
Table 10-1 List of emergency response procedures developed for the NESF within the Fire and Emergency Response Plan	30

List of Figures

Figure 1-1 Approved layout (Development Consent 9255, March 2020).....	8
Figure 2-1 EMS Structure.....	11
Figure 2-2 EMS Document Framework.....	12

1 Introduction

1.1 Approved Project

The New England Solar Farm (NESF) was granted Development Consent from the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE) (now the Department of Planning and Environment [DPE]) on 9 March 2020 (SSD 9255). The Development Consent was most recently modified on 19 February 2021 (Modification 1). A consolidated consent is provided in Appendix C. The approved General Layout is shown in Figure 1-1 below.

1.1.1 General project description

ACEN Australia Pty Ltd (ACEN Australia) (formerly named UPC Renewables Australia Pty Ltd) has approval to develop the New England Solar and Battery Project; a significant grid-connected solar and battery energy storage system (BESS) project along with associated infrastructure, approximately 6 kilometres (km) east of the township of Uralla, which lies approximately 19 km south of Armidale, in the Uralla Shire local government area (LGA) (hereafter referred to as the NESF). The NESF is within the New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). The NESF was approved, subject to conditions, by the New South Wales (NSW) Independent Planning Commission (IPC) on 9 March 2020 (SSD-9255).

The NESF will be constructed in two stages:

- Stage 1 - construction of the northern array area including the solar array substation and the grid substation, which commenced on 7 February 2022 (note: approval was received to conduct certain pre-construction activities prior to 7 February 2022).
- Stage 2 - construction of the central array area including the solar array substation, and the construction of the battery energy storage system (BESS), which is expected to commence in Q1 2023.

The exact timing of the commencement of Stage 2, and the duration of the overlap between the two stages, is still being finalised. Similarly, the overall duration of the Project's construction will be confirmed once the preferred engineering, procurement and construction contractor is selected and the detailed construction schedule is confirmed. The timeframes are indicative only.

Unless approval has been obtained from the Secretary, construction, upgrading and decommissioning activities on site can only be undertaken between the following hours:

- 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday
- 8 am to 1 pm Saturdays
- at no time on Sundays and NSW public holidays.

Key components of the NESF development are summarised in Table 1-1 and Figure 1-1.

Table 1-1 Key components of the NESF

Aspect	Description
NESF project summary	The NESF project includes: • A generating capacity of approximately 720 (MW), including about 400 MW generated by the northern arrays and 320 MW from the central arrays • Approximately 1.4 million single-axis tracking solar panels (up to 4.3 metres (m) high) and 150 power conversion units (PCU) (up to 2.7 m high) • A grid substation in the northern array area and connection to TransGrid's 330 kilovolt (kV) transmission line • An internal substation in the central array area at one of two locations • A lithium-ion battery storage facility (200 MW/400 MWh) located adjacent to one or both of the substations and within a number of small enclosures (up to 2.9 m high) or larger battery buildings (up to 5.5 m high)

Aspect	Description
	• A train unloading area, internal access tracks, staff amenities, maintenance buildings (up to 8 m high), offices, laydown areas, car parking and security fencing; and • Subdivision of land within the site for the grid substation.
Project area	• Site: 3,362 hectares (ha) • Total NESF footprint: 2,061 ha — Northern array footprint: 1,394 ha — Central array footprint: 624 ha — Electrical cabling and site access corridors: 43 ha.
Access route	• All vehicles will access the site via the New England Highway, Barleyfields Road (north of Big Ridge Road).
Site entry and road upgrades	• Two new site entry points will be constructed on Big Ridge Road with a rural property access type. • Upgrades to the intersection of: — The New England Highway and Barleyfields Road, including a Channelised Right Turn (CHR) treatment (pending relevant authority approvals). — Barleyfields Road and Big Ridge Road, including a Basic Left Turn (BAL) treatment. • Upgrades to: — Barleyfields Road between the New England Highway and Big Ridge Road, including sealing to a width of 7.2 m and 1 m gravel shoulders — Big Ridge Road including sealing sections to a width of 7.2 m and 1 m gravel shoulders, and upgrading a section with a gravel surface to a width of 8.7 m.
Rail transport	• Construction materials may be transported to the site via a combination of road and rail (average of 2 trains per week) • A train unloading area and materials storage area may be constructed adjacent to the Main Northern Railway. Materials will be stored in shipping containers (up to 2.9 m high) until required on-site.
Construction	• Construction materials may be transported to the site via a combination of road and rail (average of 2 trains per week) • Construction hours limited to Monday to Friday 7 am to 6 pm, and Saturday 8 am to 1 pm.
Operation	• The expected operational life of the NESF is approximately 30 years. However, the NESF may involve infrastructure upgrades that could extend the operational life.
Decommissioning and rehabilitation	• The NESF also includes decommissioning at the end of the NESF project life, which will involve removing all infrastructure.
Hours of operation	• Daily operations and maintenance will be undertaken Monday to Friday 7 am to 6 pm, and Saturday 8 am to 1 pm.

Aspect	Description
Subdivision	Subdivision of the lots on which the approved grid substation will be located.
Employment	Approximately 700 construction jobs and up to 15 full-time operational jobs.
Capital investment value	\$768 million.

1.2 Applicant

ACEN Australia (previously UPC\AC Renewables Australia Pty Ltd) is the NESF Applicant.

1.3 EPC Contractors

Green Light Contractors Pty Ltd (GLC) is the Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor engaged by ACEN Australia to construct the NESF (excluding the 330 kV switching station) on 25 September 2020.

UGL Projects Division (UGL) is the EPC contractor engaged to construct the 330 kV switching station.

1.4 Strategy Function

This Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) has been prepared to satisfy a Condition of Development Consent SSD 9255. Specifically, Condition 4.1 requires:

1. *Prior to commencing the development, the Applicant must prepare an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:*
 - (a) *provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the development*
 - (b) *identify the statutory approvals that apply to the development*
 - (c) *describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development*
 - (d) *describe the procedures that would be implemented to:*
 - *keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development*
 - *receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints*
 - *resolve any disputes that may arise*
 - *respond to any non-compliance*
 - *respond to emergencies; and*
 - (e) *include:*
 - *references to any plans approved under the conditions of this consent; and*
 - *a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development*

Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Environmental Management Strategy.

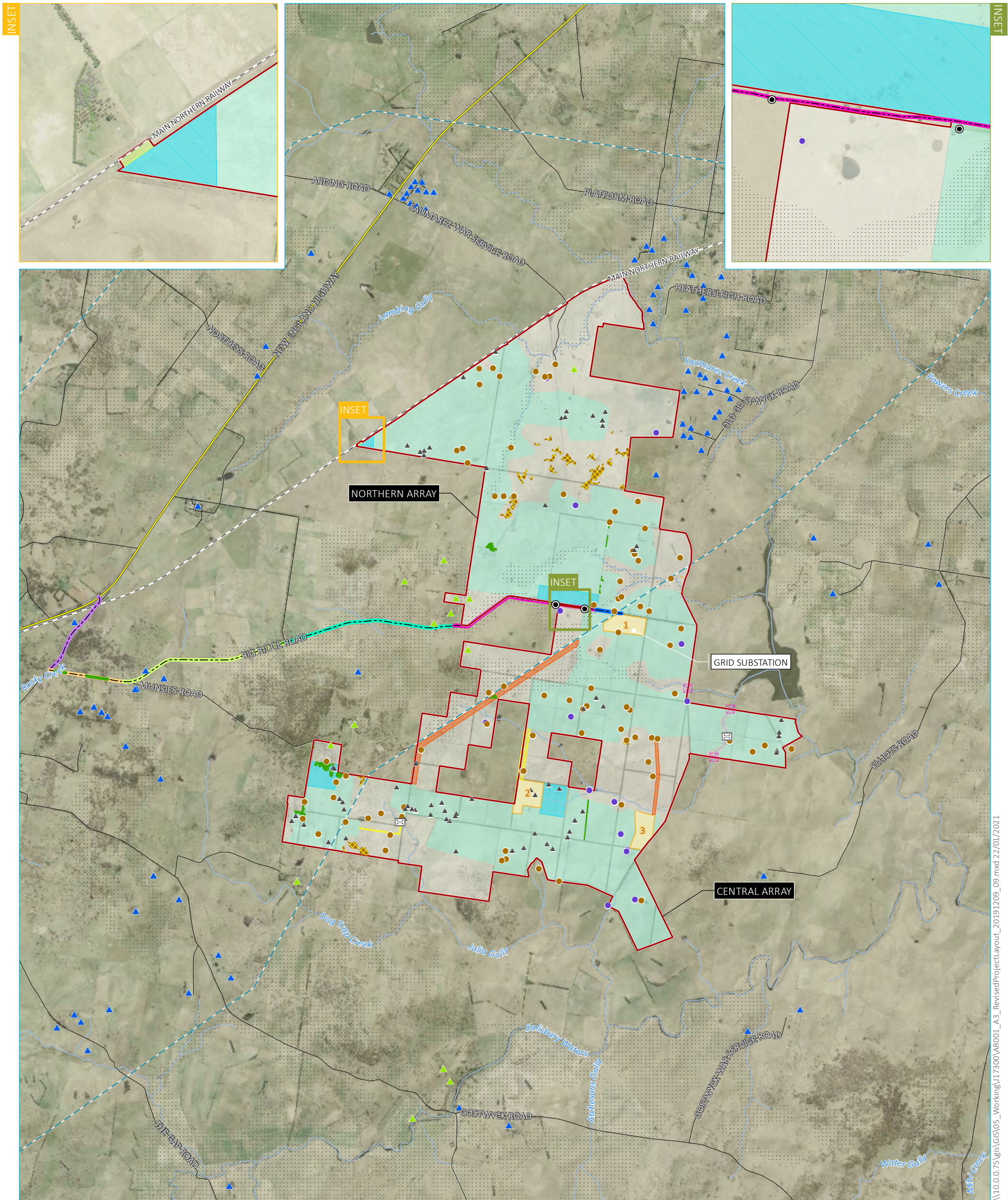
The Development Consent defines 'construction' as:

The construction of the development, including but not limited to the carrying out of any earthworks on site and the construction of solar panels and any ancillary infrastructure (but excludes road upgrades or maintenance works to the public road network, building/road dilapidation surveys, installation of fencing, artefact survey and/or salvage, overhead line safety marking and geotechnical drilling and/or surveying).

The Development Consent defines 'operation' as:

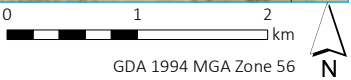
The operation of the development, but does not include commissioning, trials of equipment or the use of temporary facilities.

The operation of the NESF in this EMS is taken to mean when NESF is generating electricity into the grid.



Source: EMM (2019); DFSI (2017); UPC (2019)

*The extent of Lot 1 of DP 227322 within the development footprint is 205.4 hectares, which represents approximately 8.4% of the total lot. Subsequently, the full extent of Lot 1 of DP 227322 has been excluded from the project boundary.
** The grid substation (location 1) and only one of potential substation location numbers 2 or 3 to be constructed



KEY

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Main roadLocal roadProject boundary * | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sensitive receptors<ul style="list-style-type: none">Project-relatedNon-project related | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Development footprint<ul style="list-style-type: none">Solar arrayPotential electrical cablingPotential site access/electrical cablingPotential laydown area/site compoundPotential substation/BESS footprint (location number) **Hardstand in rail corridorPotential creek crossingProposed primary site access pointIndicative location of security fencing across third order watercourses | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identified Aboriginal sitesHistoric heritage sitesPaddock trees requiring offsetsPlant community requiring offsetPlant community type avoidance areas<ul style="list-style-type: none">PCT 510 woodland | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Primary vehicle access route<ul style="list-style-type: none">Barleyfields RoadBig Ridge Road - segment 1Big Ridge Road - segment 2Big Ridge Road - segment 3Big Ridge Road - segment 4Big Ridge Road - segment 5 |
|---|--|---|---|--|

Project layout

New England Solar Farm



The approved works which are specified as being excluded from the Development Consent definition of construction are not included when reference is made to ‘construction’ within the Development Consent (i.e., the ‘excluded early works’). However, for the purposes of reading this EMS, all references to the NESF or the construction and or development of the NESF also encompasses a reference to these excluded early works, unless stated otherwise.

1.5 Structure

Table 1-2 summarises how the structure and scope of this EMS has been prepared so as to be consistent with the conditions of Development Consent SSD 9255. This cross referencing is to assist with future review, auditing and compliance management of the NESF.

Table 1-2 EMS Structure

Section	Content
2	Provides the strategic framework for the environmental management of the NESF, including other environmental strategies, plans and programs related to the EMS.
3	Identifies the statutory approvals that apply to the NESF.
4	Identifies the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the NESF.
5	Describes the procedures that will be implemented to keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the NESF.
6	Specifies the procedures that will be implemented to receive, handle, respond to and record complaints.
7	Describes the procedures that will be implemented to resolve any disputes that may arise.
8	Describes the procedures that will be implemented to respond to any non-compliance.
9	Describes the notification procedures that will be implemented in the event of an incident.
10	Describes the procedures that will be implemented to respond to emergencies.
11	Describes the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development.

1.6 Strategy Review and Revision

As per SSD 9255, the Applicant must:

- (f) *update the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary prior to carrying out any upgrading or decommissioning activities on site, and*
- (g) *review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary within 1 month of the:*
 - *submission of an incident report under condition 7 of Schedule 4,*
 - *submission of an audit report under condition 9 of Schedule 4, or*
 - *any modification to the conditions of this consent.*

ACEN will also undertake annual management compliance reviews to assess the implementation of commitments made in the EMS and compliance with the Development Consent.

Any changes to the management plans will be approved by the Secretary, before implementing those changes, and in consultation with relevant agencies.

2 Strategic Framework

2.1 Environmental Strategy

A strategy is a plan of action designed to achieve an overall aim. GLC and ACEN Australia's aim is to design, construct, operate, upgrade and decommission the NESF in full compliance with Development Consent SSD 9255.

Condition 2.2 states:

The Applicant must carry out the development:

- (a) generally in accordance with the EIS; and*
- (b) in accordance with the conditions of this consent.*

Note: The general layout of the development is shown in Appendix 1 (this is also shown in Figure 1-1 within Section 1.3 of this EMS).

In the context above, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) includes:

- *New England Solar Farm – Environmental Impact Statement (EMM, 2019a).*
- *New England Solar Farm – Amendment Report (EMM, 2019b).*
- *New England Solar Farm – Submissions Report (EMM, 2019c).*
- *New England Solar Farm – Additional Information, October 2019 (EMM, 2019d).*
- *New England Solar Farm – Additional Information, December 2019 (EMM, 2019e).*
- *Subdivision Plan (Development Consent Appendix 3).*
- *New England Solar Farm (SSD 9255) – IPC Responses (7 February) (UPC Renewables, February 2020a).*
- *New England Solar Farm (SSD 9255) – IPC Responses (18 February) (UPC Renewables, February 2020b).*
- *New England Solar Farm – Modification 1 Report (EMM, 2020).*

The EMS objective is to therefore comply with all Conditions of the Development Consent and the documents above that form the 'EIS'.

Section 2.2 sets out in further detail the various environmental strategies, plans and programs required by either the Development Consent or the EIS, all of which sit under the ultimate direction of this EMS.

As the NESF Applicant, it is ACEN Australia's ultimate responsibility to ensure the NESF is designed, built, operated, upgraded and decommissioned according to the Development Consent. UPC\AC Renewables Australia's (now ACEN Australia) Environmental Policy (refer to Appendix A) sets out commitments to:

- *Comply with environmental laws and regulations in all work locations as an absolute minimum (refer to Section 3 of this EMS, and the Construction Environmental Management Plan New England Solar Farm – Stage 1 [CEMP] which sits under this overall EMS)*
- *Understand and manage potential environmental risks at all work locations (refer to Sections 4.5, 9.4, and the CEMP which sits under this overall EMS)*
- *Contribute to the overall health and resiliency of ecosystems in all work locations (refer to the Biodiversity Management Plan [BMP] which sits under this overall EMS)*
- *Participate in integrated approaches to land use planning (the Project will be undertaken as per Development Consent SSD 9255)*
- *Identify and implement opportunities for efficient energy and water usage (refer to erosion and sediment controls as per the Soil and Water Management Plan [SWMP])*
- *Identify and implement opportunities for waste avoidance and minimisation (refer to the Waste Management Plan [WMP] which sits under this overall EMS)*
- *Report annually to all stakeholders on our environmental activities (refer to Section 5.2).*

GLC has its own Environmental Policy (refer to Appendix B) which will assist it in ensuring these policy measures of the Applicant are met during the Project. The mechanism for achieving this is for a clear delineation of contractually enforced responsibilities between the Applicant (ACEN Australia) and the EPC Contractor (GLC). Figure 2-1 below shows how the EMS sits within the overall relationships between the relevant parties.

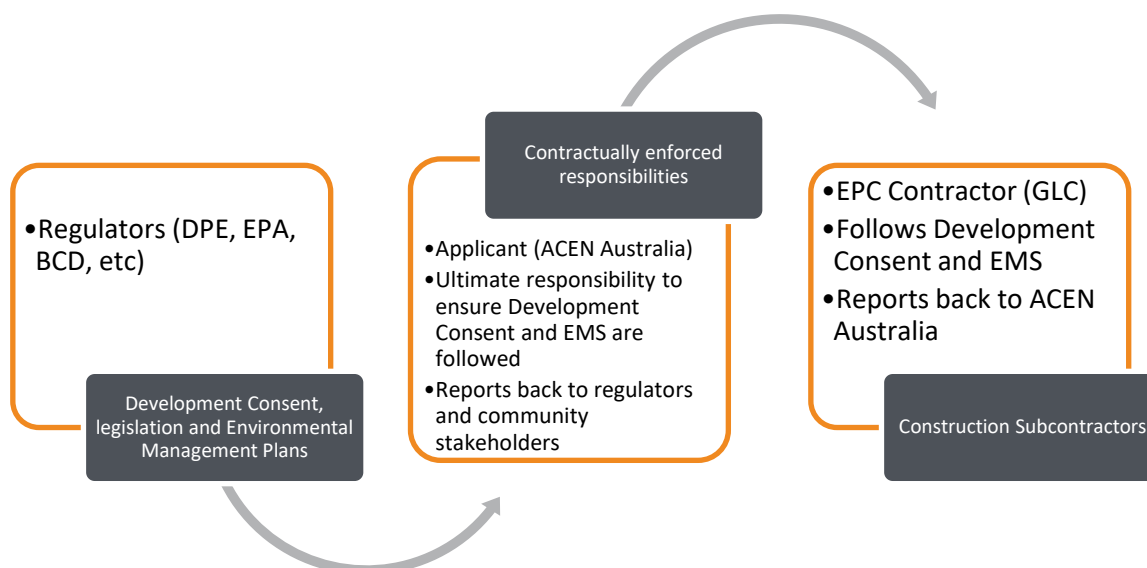


Figure 2-1 EMS Structure

2.2 Environmental Strategies, Plans and Programs

Figure 2-2 shows the various environmental strategies, plans and programs required by either the Development Consent or the EIS, all of which sit under the ultimate direction of this EMS. Table 2-1 describes the timing of preparation or approval of each document.

Each of these documents will identify procedures and work practices designed to minimise adverse environmental impacts and comply with the Development Consent. They will each include, where appropriate, performance criteria and the targeted monitoring.

Any changes to these management plans will be approved by the Secretary, before implementing the changes, and in consultation with relevant agencies (unless the Secretary agrees otherwise).

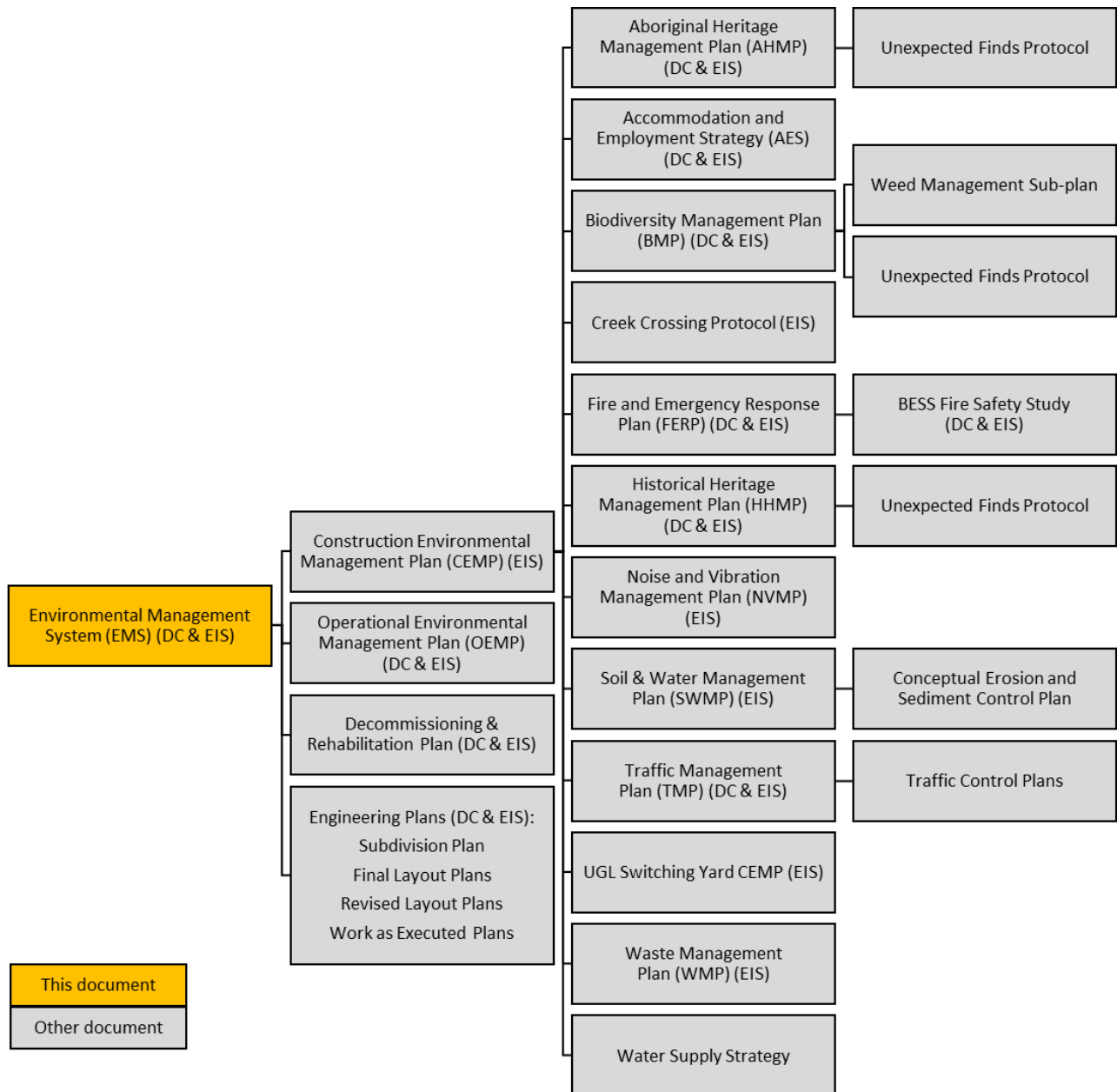


Figure 2-2 EMS Document Framework

Table 2-1 Environmental Strategies, Plans and Programs

Plan	When ^{1, 2}
Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	Prior to commencing construction. Complete.
Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP)	Prior to commencing operations.
Decommissioning & Rehabilitation Plan	Within 3 years of commencement of operation.
Subdivision Plan	Prior to subdividing the site.
Final Layout Plans	Prior to commencing construction. Complete.
Revised Layout Plans	Provided these upgrades remain within the approved development footprint of the site. Prior to carrying out any such upgrades, the Applicant must provide revised layout plans and project details of the development to the Secretary incorporating the proposed upgrade.
Work as Executed Plans	Prior to commencing operations or following the upgrades of any solar panels or ancillary infrastructure.
Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (AHMP)	Prior to commencing the development. Complete.
Accommodation and Employment Strategy (AES) Stages 1 and 2	Prior to commencing construction. Stage 1 AES complete.
Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP)	Prior to commencing the development. Complete.
Fire and Emergency Response Plan (FERP), including the Fire Safety Study	Prior to commissioning operations. Fire Safety Study component required prior to commencing construction of the battery storage facility.
Historical Heritage Management Plan (HHMP)	Prior to commencing the development. Complete.
Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan (CNVMP)	Prior to commencing construction. Complete.
Soil and Water Management Plan (SWMP)	Prior to commencing construction. Complete.
Traffic Management Plan (TMP) Stages 1 and 2	Prior to commencing the development. Stage 1 TMP complete.
Waste Management Strategy (WMS)	Prior to commencing construction. Complete.
Water Supply Strategy (WSS)	Prior to commencing construction. Complete.

¹"Prior to commencing the development" indicates the requirement must be fulfilled prior to commencing any of works – these included works approved under the Development Consent and the 'excluded early works'.

²"Prior to commencing construction" indicates that the requirement relates only to the works approved under the Development Consent. The 'excluded early works' may commence prior to that commitment being satisfied.

3 Statutory Approvals

Statutory approvals include licences, permits, consents and/or authorisations that are required, pursuant to legislative obligations, prior to undertaking specific activities. Approvals relevant to the NESF are listed below in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1 Statutory approvals

Approval	Act	Comment
Section 4.38	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	Development Consent SSD 9255 was originally granted by DPE on 9 March 2020. Modifications to the Development Consent are described in Section 1.1 and the consolidated consent is provided in Appendix C.
Section 68 Approvals	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	ACEN Australia would require approvals under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993 to connect to Uralla Shire Council's water and sewerage networks. However, this is not currently proposed and therefore a Section 68 approval has not been sought to date.
Construction and Occupation Certificates	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>	Construction Certificates are required prior to developing the NESF (including prior to commencing the 'excluded early works'). To date, the Principal Certifying Authority has issued the following construction certificates: • CC1 – solar farm perimeter fences. • CC2 – switchyard civil works. • CC3 – substation civil works. • CC4 – solar farm main works. • CC5 – switchyard main works excluding buildings. • CC6 – substation main works excluding buildings. • CC7 – OHL works (outside switchyard). • CC8 – switchyard, substation, and O&M facility and buildings. • CC9 – switchyard permanent fence. Occupation Certificates will be obtained progressively as works are completed.
Section 99 Exemption during Total Fire Ban	<i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i>	If proposed, prior to conducting any Hot Works during a Total Fire Ban period, an exemption must be obtained from the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service. None have been required to date.
Section 45 Notice of Proposal	<i>Electricity Supply Act 1995</i>	Work carried out by a network operator and comprising the erection, installation, extension or alteration of electricity works on any land is exempt from the requirement for an approval under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , except in relation to buildings. However, no such work (other than routine repairs or maintenance work) may be carried out unless: notice of the proposal to carry out the work has been given to the local council, and the local council has been given a reasonable opportunity (being not less than 40 days from the date on which the notice was given) to make submissions to the network operator in relation to the proposal, and the network operator has given due consideration to any submissions so made. None have been required to date.

Approval	Act	Comment
Access Route	<i>Heavy Vehicle (Adoption of National Law) Act 2013</i>	All vehicles associated with the development must travel to and from the site via the New England Highway, Barleyfields Road, Big Ridge Road and the two site access points off Big Ridge Road, as identified in the figure in Appendix 4 of the SSD9255 approval. Note: The Applicant is required to obtain relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of over-dimensional vehicles on the road network. Several National Heavy Vehicle Regulator permits have been obtained to date.
Section 138 Certificate (Work on Public Lands) Section 34 Road Closure Permit	<i>Roads Act 1993</i>	Section 138 Certificate (Work on Public Lands) are required before road works are carried out. Relevant Section 138 Approvals were obtained prior to commencing the road upgrades. ACEN Australia has secured a Section 138 Approval for road closure within the site as well as a licence from Crown Roads to perform works for those roads that are in process of sale from Crown Lands to the relevant landowner.
Lease Agreements	<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	Each of the Lease Agreements with the project landholders contains reference to the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and requires the solar farm operator to develop site-specific biosecurity measures to control biosecurity risk during the term of the lease.
Water Access Licence	<i>Water Sharing Plan for the Macleay Unregulated and Alluvial Water Source 2016</i>	No Water Access Licences are held by ACEN or GLC under the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Macleay Unregulated and Alluvial Water Source 2016</i> . Water is provided via a private commercial agreement with a landholder who has obtained Water Access Licences for extraction. Refer to the approved Water Supply Strategy for further details.
Water Access Licence	<i>Water Sharing Plan for the North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources 2016</i>	No Water Access Licences are required under the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources 2016</i> . Water has not been obtained from this water source to date. Refer to the approved Water Supply Strategy for further details.
Section 92 Water Supply Work Approval and Water Use Approval	<i>Water Management Act 2000</i>	Water is provided via a private commercial agreement with a landholder who has modified work approval number 30CA308873 to include a submersible pump and pipeline (to provide water to the NESF). Refer to the approved Water Supply Strategy for further details.
Section 6.27 Retirement of Biodiversity Credits	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>	Biodiversity credits have been retired for the NESF. Refer to the approved Biodiversity Management Plan for further details.

4 Roles and Responsibilities

This Section 4 of the EMS identifies the roles, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the NESF.

Table 4-1 summarises the roles and responsibilities of key parties, which are further detailed within Sections 4.1-4.4 below.

Table 4-1 Roles and responsibilities of key personnel

Role	Responsibility	Accountable to
ACEN Australia Project Director	Ensure NESF is designed, built, operated, upgraded and decommissioned according to Development Consent SSD 9255.	ACEN Australia
GLC Project Manager	EPC Contractor with the responsibility to design, procure, build and commission the NESF (excluding the switching station) for ACEN Australia.	ACEN Australia
UGL Project Manager	EPC Contractor with the responsibility to design, procure, build and commission the switching station for ACEN Australia.	ACEN Australia
GLC Community Liaison Officer	Recording and actioning of complaints during construction.	GLC
Parties TBC – not yet engaged on the NESF project	Responsible for operating, upgrading and decommissioning the NESF. Will assume relevant responsibilities and accountability to either operate, upgrade or decommission the NESF in compliance with the existing Development Consent (refer to Appendix C). Will be specified and incorporated into the OEMP and Decommissioning Management Plan prior to the NESF either being operated, upgraded or decommissioned.	ACEN Australia

4.1 Development Applicant

4.1.1 Ultimate Responsibility

ACEN Australia is the NESF Applicant and as such has ultimate responsibility and accountability to ensure that the NESF is designed, built, operated, upgraded and decommissioned in accordance with the Development Consent.

ACEN Australia's Project Manager has full authority to ensure these obligations are met.

A copy of UPC\AC Renewables' (now ACEN Australia) Environmental Policy is provided in Appendix A.

4.1.2 Website

ACEN Australia also has responsibility to provide up to date information on the NESF on its dedicated website (refer to Section 1 below):

<https://www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au/>

4.2 GLC

GLC is the EPC Contractor with the responsibility to design, procure, build and commission the NESF (excluding the switching station) for ACEN Australia.

GLC's contractual obligations do not extend to the operation, upgrading or decommissioning of the NESF. The contractual requirements do, however, extend to the design and construction of the NESF in compliance with the Development Consent. This responsibility extends to all employees and/or sub-contractors engaged by GLC to build the NESF.

GLC's Project Manager has full authority to ensure these obligations are met.

A copy of GLC's Environmental Policy is provided in Appendix B.

4.3 UGL

UGL is the EPC Contractor with the responsibility to reduce, procure, build and commission the switching station for the Applicant.

UGL's contractual obligations do not extend to the operation, upgrading or decommissioning of the switching station. The contractual requirements do, however, extend to the design and construction of the switching station in compliance with the Development Consent. This responsibility extends to all employees and/or sub-contractors engaged by UGL to build the switching station.

UGL's Project Manager has full authority to ensure these obligations are met.

UGL is part of the CIMIC Group. A copy of CIMIC's Environmental Policy is provided in Appendix C.

4.4 Future Responsibilities

The entities that will have responsibilities to operate, upgrade and decommission the NESF are yet to be engaged by ACEN Australia.

Notwithstanding, those entities will assume relevant responsibilities and accountability to either operate, upgrade or decommission the NESF in compliance with the existing Development Consent (refer to Appendix C).

These responsibilities will be specified and incorporated into the OEMP and Decommissioning Management Plan prior to the NESF either being operated, upgraded or decommissioned.

4.5 Training, awareness and competence

To ensure that this EMS is effectively implemented, each level of management is responsible for ensuring that all personnel reporting to them are aware of the requirements of this strategy. The Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Manager will coordinate the environmental training in conjunction with other training and development activities (e.g. safety).

4.5.1 Environmental induction

Prior to working on site all personnel and sub-contractors will undertake an online site-specific induction covering environmental aspects. This is done to ensure all personnel involved in the Project are aware of the requirements of the EMS, and to ensure the implementation of environmental management measures.

Short-term visitors to site for purposes such as deliveries will be required to be accompanied by inducted personnel at all times.

The HSE Manager will conduct the environmental component of the site inductions. The environmental induction will address a range of issues including, but not limited to:

- Purpose and objectives of EMS.
- Requirements of due diligence and duty of care.
- Roles and responsibilities.
- Typical project environmental hazards and risks, including:
 - No go and exclusion zones
 - Location of sensitive environmental areas

- Community sensitivities

- Environmental emergency and incident procedures and locations of emergency spill kits.
- Management and reporting process for environmental incidents.

A record of all environment inductions will be maintained and kept on-site.

The HSE Manager is a member of the GLC team and will review and approve the induction program and monitor implementation.

4.5.2 Toolbox talks, training and awareness

Toolbox talks will be one method used to raise awareness and educate personnel on issues related to environmental risks. Discussion of environmental issues will be a standard agenda item on all toolbox talks.

From time to time, specific topics will be selected for more detailed discussion. Toolbox talks will be prepared and delivered by the HSE Manager (or delegate). A register of toolbox talks will be kept on site and maintained by the HSE.

Typical environmental topics discussed at toolbox talks include:

- Vegetation clearing and protection
- Erosion and sedimentation management
- Noise, vibration, and air quality management
- Management of identified heritage items
- Emergency procedures.

4.5.3 Environmental awareness training

In addition to inductions and toolbox talks, select employees and sub-contractors may be provided with additional environmental awareness training. Formal qualifications for specialist staff may be required in relation to activities such as animal handling and the design of erosion and sedimentation control plans.

Targeted environmental awareness training will be provided to individuals or groups of workers with a specific authority or responsibility for environmental management or those undertaking an activity with a high risk of environmental impact.

This training may be delivered by external providers or by the HSE Manager. Daily pre-start meetings will occur during construction. The pre-start meeting is a tool for informing the workforce of the day's activities. Safe work practices, environmental protection practices, work area restrictions, activities that may affect the works, coordination with other trades, hazards and other information that may be relevant to the day's work are discussed.

Any potential non-compliance, notifiable incident or other matter which comes to light during the construction of the Project would be advised to staff at the next pre-start meeting. This could include information which comes to light as a result of a community complaint.

The Site Managers or their delegates will conduct a daily pre-start meeting with the site workforce before the commencement of work each day (or shift) or where changes occur during a shift. Daily pre-start meetings are generally succinct and take approximately 10-15 minutes.

The environmental component of pre-starts will be determined by relevant foreman and environmental personnel and will include any environmental issues that could potentially be impacted by, or impact on, the day's activities. All attendees will be required to sign on to the pre-start and acknowledge their understanding of the issues explained.

5 Communication

5.1 Internal communication

Clear lines of communication through all levels and functions (e.g. management, staff and sub-contractors), is key to minimise environmental impacts and achieving continual improvements in environmental performance.

5.1.1 Daily onsite communication

The HSE will meet daily as part of Project construction meetings to discuss any issues with environmental management onsite, any amendments to plans that may be required or any new/changes to construction activities.

5.1.2 Monthly environmental inspections

Monthly environmental inspections will be undertaken with the HSE and relevant Project staff. The purpose of these inspections is to communicate internally ongoing environmental performance and to identify any issues to be addressed. Compliance Reports are to be provided on the NESF website (refer to Section 1 below).

5.1.3 Monthly project review meetings

Monthly Project review meetings will be attended by ACEN Australia, GLC and any other significant parties. The meetings will discuss the progress of the Project and will review significant environmental risks. Stakeholders and the broader community would be made aware of relevant project progress discussed at these meetings via the methods identified in Section 5.2 below, as relevant.

5.2 Access to Information

As the first point of call, ACEN Australia will keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the NESF by providing up to date information on the NESF on its dedicated website: <https://www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au/>.

Specifically, the following information will be made available on this project website:

- The EIS
- The final layout plans for the development (Schedule 4 Condition 5)
- Current statutory approvals for the development
- Approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent
- The proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation or decommissioning of the development is to be staged
- How complaints about the development can be made
- A complaints register
- Compliance reports
- Any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit
- Any other matter required by the Secretary.

This information will also be kept up to date.

Table 5-1 below sets out further engagement options for various types of external stakeholders which will be utilised in order to keep the broader community informed.

Table 5-1 Engagement delivery method for each stakeholder group

Engagement Tools and Techniques	Requirements	Stakeholder Applicability ¹
Website	Provide plans and locations of the Project, Project milestones, high level work program with identified roads, community infrastructure to be affected. Provide contract details for information and feedback.	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
Facebook Page @newenglandsolarfarm	Immediate forum to receive feedback, outline milestones, planned works.	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
Council Website	Provide information on road impacts, link to Project website, Project milestones. Advertise community events being supported. CSBI grants – opening dates and those awarded	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
Community Advisory Group	May include representatives from Uralla Shire Council, local business owners, Project and adjoining landholder. This Group may provide ACEN Australia and GLC with a means to communicate the timing of upcoming construction activities, provide local businesses with advance notice of resource needs and allow the businesses to plan for material needs variation in demand. It could also provide community representatives with a forum for voicing concerns.	Tier 1
Community Engagement Database Management	Identifies and records engagements with all stakeholders	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
ACEN Australia Email Address info@newenglandsolarfarm.com.au	Continue to make available to receive feedback/ complaints	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
Website Feedback	Continue to make available to receive feedback/ complaints	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
Mailing list – email/mail	Provide regular updates via information sheet	Tier 1
Complaints Register and management	Internal register to record and manage complaints received	Tier 1
Phone calls/emails	As required, and proactively when new work areas will be commenced. A direct method that ACEN Australia and GLC can provide Project information and address outstanding issues from the previous meeting.	Tier 1
One on one consultation	One on one / face to face meetings can be used to address stakeholder specific matters/concerns about the Project.	Tier 1
Media Releases	To allow information to be easily and quickly transmitted to a wider audience. To increase interest and awareness in the Project	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
Advertisements – local paper	Supporting community events and support, Project milestones	Tier 2
Flyers and other Informative content, Project Newsletters	Milestones, scheduled work program, community supported events	Tiers 1 and 2
CSBI Reference group	CSBI Reference group informed of Project milestones, encourages support through local representatives	Tier 2
Site visits for interested groups e.g. councils, landholders, consultative committee. Special interest groups	Firsthand visibility of the Project development, progress	Tiers 1 and 2
Participation in local events	Community support and development, community presence	Tiers 1 and 2

¹ Tier 1 Stakeholders refers to project landholders, adjoining landholders, Uralla Shire Council, local businesses, Community Advisory Group, and Members of Parliament

Tier 2 Stakeholders refers to Armidale Regional Council, Walcha Shire Council, Tamworth Regional Council, Uralla Wordsworth, Armidale News, Armidale Express, Radio -Armidale- ABC New England North West, Armidale community radio 2ARM, Local television stations – Nine NBN (NBN News North West) ABC, Southern Cross 10, PRIME7 News North West, NSW Regional Clean Energy Team Leader, Clean Energy Council, NSW Renewable Energy Advocate, CSBI and CSBI Reference Group, Uralla Shire Business Chamber, Zero Net Energy Town (ZNet), Regional Development Australia Northern Inland (RDANI), Interested members of the local community (Uralla, Walcha, Armidale), Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator, Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), TransGrid, DPE, EPA, Transport for NSW, Northern Tablelands Local Land Services (LLS), NSW Fire and Rescue, NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS)

Tier 3 Stakeholders refers to local businesses potentially impacted as a partner or to deliver (e.g. hotels, accommodation, food outlets), Print/online media (SMH, Herald Sun, Australian), Radio, Television stations (captured by local media), Armidale Business Chamber, NSW Farmers Association, Residents and businesses of nearby towns e.g. Armidale, Walcha, University of New England (UNE), CSIRO, and Mining/mineral exploration license holders.

At significant timeframes in the Project's development, the following initiatives will be considered:

- Media releases should be prepared for each significant Project milestone
- Notices in local papers should be used for all roadwork information
- Site visits should be coordinated after significant Project milestones have been reached
- Letterbox drops, emails and phone calls should be undertaken prior to work commencing on the site, to the relevant landholders
- The website and complaints register should be updated monthly.

At regular intervals throughout the Project, a review of the following will be undertaken:

- Website - Complaints Register, schedule of activities, contact numbers, email and postal addresses
- Complaints management procedure – to be implemented as per the EMS
- Facebook, contact numbers, email addresses
- Mailing list for stakeholders
- Community Advisory Group function and members.

6 Complaints Management

6.1 Scope

This Section 6 describes the procedures that will be implemented to receive, handle, respond to and record complaints.

6.2 Means of Making a Complaint

The following contact details are available for the community to make a complaint or send an enquiry:

- A 24 hour telephone number (1300 250 479)
- An email address to which electronic complaints may be transmitted (info@newenglandsolarfarm.com).
- A Facebook page has been established (<https://www.facebook.com/newenglandsolarfarm>).

These details will be provided on the NESF website. They would also be published in a local newspaper and displayed on a project sign outside of the site in a publicly accessible location.

6.3 How any Complaint will be Handled

6.3.1 Construction

Any complaint received will be immediately logged in the NESF Communications Document. The NESF Communications Document captures complaints, as well as any community feedback or general enquiries. It is updated as required by the Community Liaison Officer and is shared between key members of both ACEN Australia and GLC. By using the shared live document, it ensures that both ACEN Australia and GLC are aware of the status of any complaints and the most recent actions taken.

As soon as is practicable GLC will investigate the cause of the complaint and identify actions required to avoid a recurrence. Regardless of the circumstance, this initial response will be completed within 24 hours of receiving the complaint.

If so requested when the complaint was received, GLC will also contact the complainant to discuss the issue, the cause and advise them of the actions taken to avoid a recurrence and any applicable timeframes to resolving the complaint.

This investigation and contact will be fully documented in the NESF Communications Document maintained by GLC and the Complaints Register will be updated on an ongoing basis. Each month, the updated Complaints Register will be provided to ACEN Australia for uploading onto the Project website. The recording and actioning of complaints is the responsibility of GLC's Community Liaison Officer.

Should a complaint lead to the identification of a notifiable incident or other non-compliance, the notification measures outlined in Sections 8.4 and 9.3 would be followed, as relevant.

Any potential non-compliance, notifiable incident or other matter which comes to light during the construction of the Project would be advised to staff at the next pre-start meeting. This could include information which comes to light as a result of a community complaint.

6.3.2 Operation

Any complaint received will be immediately logged in the NESF Communications Document.

As soon as is practicable, the NESF Operations Manager will investigate the cause of the complaint and identify actions required to avoid a recurrence. Regardless of circumstance, this initial response will be completed with 24 hours of receiving the complaint.

If so requested when the complaint was received, the Operations Manager will also contact the complainant to discuss the cause and advise them of the actions taken to avoid a recurrence.

This investigation and contact will be fully documented in the NESF Communications Document maintained by the NESF Operations Manager and the Complaints Register will be updated and uploaded onto its website.

The entities that will have responsibilities to operate, upgrade and decommission the NESF are yet to be engaged. The personnel responsible for recording and actioning complaints received during these project stages will be confirmed at a later date.

Should a complaint lead to the identification of a notifiable incident or other non-compliance, the notification measures outlined in Sections 8.4 and 9.3 would be followed, as relevant.

Any potential non-compliance, notifiable incident or other matter which comes to light during the construction of the Project would be advised to staff at the next pre-start meeting. This could include information which comes to light as a result of a community complaint.

6.4 Recording Complaints

Any and every complaint will be documented through maintaining the NESF Communications Document and cross-referenced Complaints Register.

6.4.1 Complaints Register

The Complaints Register will record:

- A complaint reference number
- The date and time the complaint was received
- Whether the complainant wanted to be contacted
- Nature of the complaint
- Status of the resolution of the complaint.

For the life of the NESF the Complaints Register will be updated on a monthly basis (if complaints were received in that month) and listed on the NESF website.

The public Complaints Register does not include details of who the complainant is on this register for privacy reasons.

6.4.2 NESF Communications Document

The Communications Document will record:

- The date and time of the complaint
- The means by which the complaint was made (telephone, mail or email)
- Any personal details of the complainant that were provided, or if no details were provided a note to that effect
- The nature of the complaint
- Any actions taken in relation to the complaint, including timeframes for implementing the action
- If no action was undertaken in relation to the complaint, the reasons why no action was taken
- If the complainant wanted to be contacted, and if so, whether the action taken was considered acceptable to the complainant.

A copy of every record will be filed and held on-site and, on request, be provided to:

- DPE
- Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
- Uralla Shire Council
- The complainant.

As the NESF Communications Document will contain information on who made the complaint, it is not proposed to make this information publicly available on the NESF website. As soon as is practicable GLC will investigate the cause of the complaint and identify actions required to avoid a recurrence. Regardless of the circumstance, this initial response will be completed with 24 hours of receiving the complaint. If so requested when the complaint was received, GLC will also contact the complainant to discuss the issue, the cause and advise them of the actions taken to avoid a recurrence and any applicable timeframes to resolving the complaint.

7 Dispute Resolution

7.1 Commitment

In the first instance, complaint investigations would be internally reviewed, and measures implemented to avoid recurrence of issues in the event of a dispute. Where disputes still cannot be resolved, GLC (during construction) and ACEN Australia (during operations) propose the following:

- Advise both DPE and Uralla Shire Council that there is a dispute
- Provide both DPE and Uralla Shire Council with copies of the relevant complaint history, including relevant documentation in the form of Complaints Record(s)
- Engage a specialist with expertise relevant to the issue at hand to investigate the dispute and provide recommendations for resolution
- Advise the third party in dispute, DPE and Uralla Shire Council, in writing, as to when the dispute investigation will be completed
- Provide the third party, DPE and Uralla Shire Council a copy of the dispute investigation report, which will include GLC/ACEN Australia's intentions with regards to the implementation of the recommendations for resolution.

The timeframes for resolving disputes will vary depending on the nature of the dispute, whether further monitoring is required (e.g. in the case of noise or vibration complaints), whether disputes are influenced by seasonal and meteorological matters, the nature of input received from external regulators, and the possibility of legal action being taken.

However, a 24 hour telephone number is dedicated for the making and receiving of complaints. GLC will also investigate the cause of the complaint and identify actions required to avoid a recurrence as soon as is practicable. Regardless of the circumstance, this initial response will be completed with 24 hours of receiving the complaint.

8 Non-Compliance

8.1 Commitment

A failure to comply with a Condition of Development Consent or statutory approval will constitute a non-compliance.

8.2 Response

In the event of a non-compliance, GLC (during construction) and ACEN Australia (during operations) will undertake the five steps as outlined within Table 8-1 below, consistent with the guidance advice for ISO 14001 – Environmental management systems.

Table 8-1 Non-compliance Response

Step	Action
React	React to the non-compliance and, as applicable: 1. Act to control and correct it 2. Notify and communicate to relevant parties where required (as per Sections 8.4 and 9.3, as relevant). 3. Deal with the consequences, including mitigating adverse environmental impacts.
Evaluate	Evaluate the need for action to eliminate the cause of the non-compliance in order that it does not recur or occur elsewhere by: 1. Reviewing the non-compliances 2. Determining the cause of the non-compliances 3. Determining if similar non-compliances exist or could potentially occur.
Act	Implement any action required.
Review	Review the effectiveness of any corrective action taken.
Change	Make changes to the environmental management plans, if necessary

8.3 Corrective Action

Any non-compliance will trigger a Corrective Action appropriate to the significance of the effect of the non-compliance. GLC (during construction) and ACEN Australia (during operations) will retain documented information as evidence of the nature of the non-compliance and any subsequent actions taken, and the results of the Corrective Action.

8.4 Notification

Consistent with Condition 4.4. of the Development Consent, DPE will be notified in writing via the Major Projects website portal within seven days after GLC/ACEN Australia becomes aware of any non-compliance.

The notification will:

- Identify the development (i.e. as NESF) and the application number (SSD 9255)
- Set out the Condition/s of Development Consent that the NESF is non-compliant with
- The way in which it does not comply
- The reasons for non-compliance (if known)
- What actions have been done, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.

DPE will also be given prior, written notification via the Major Projects website portal of the date of commencement or cessation of any project phase, including construction, operations, upgrading, decommissioning or cessation of operations, consistent with Condition 4.4. Where any project phase is to be undertaken in stages, DPE will be given prior written notification identifying the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage.

DPE can also be contacted via compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au.

9 Incident Management

9.1 Material Harm

The Development Consent defines an incident as:

An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm.

The Development Consent defines material harm as harm that:

involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial; or

results in actual or potential loss of property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000 (such loss includes the reasonable costs and expenses that would be incurred in taking all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent, mitigate or make good harm to the environment).

This definition of ‘material harm’ is consistent with the definition in Section 147 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and the associated legal obligations to notify the EPA where a ‘pollution’ incident occurs such that material harm to the environment is caused or threatened.

9.2 Immediate Response

Any incident that occurs that causes or threatens to cause material harm will be reported immediately to GLC’s Construction Manager (during construction) or ACEN Australia’s Operation’s Manager (during operations).

Upon receiving notification of an incident, the Construction Manager/Operations Manager (or their nominee if off-site at the time of the incident) will immediately attend the incident and:

- Isolate the area affected by the incident
- Stop works around the area
- Implement containment measures to prevent the impact of the incident spreading
- Decide as to whether the incident has caused or threatens to cause material harm.

9.3 External Notifications

9.3.1 Duty to Report

If the Construction Manager/Operations Manager (or their nominee if off-site at the time of the incident) has determined the incident has caused or threatens to cause material harm, he/she will, pursuant to requirements under Section 148 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* immediately notify the EPA, the NSW Ministry of Health, Fire and Rescue NSW and SafeWork NSW by verbal means.

These authorities will be notified (verbally) and provided the following relevant information:

- The time, date, nature, duration and location of the incident
- The location of the place where pollution is occurring or is likely to occur
- The nature, the estimated quantity or volume and the concentration of any pollutants involved, if known
- The circumstances in which the incident occurred (including the cause of the incident, if known)
- The action taken or proposed to be taken to deal with the incident and any resulting pollution or threatened pollution, if known.

The EPA may direct GLC or ACEN Australia to notify such other persons of the incident as the EPA requires.

9.3.2 Notifications

Following EPA notification immediately after becoming aware of an incident, ACEN Australia will immediately notify DPE in writing. Consistent with Condition 4.3 of the Development Consent, notification to DPE will be in writing via the Major Projects website portal, including the following information:

- Identify the development (i.e. the NESF) and the application number (SSD 9255)

- Set out the location and nature of the incident.

Uralla Shire Council would then be notified verbally of the incident.

The DPE written notification will be undertaken immediately after the EPA, NSW Ministry of Health, Fire and Rescue NSW and SafeWork NSW have been notified by verbal means, as there is an overriding legislative requirement to notify those parties, immediately.

This initial notification to DPE and Uralla Shire Council will be for information purposes alone and GLC and ACEN Australia will continue to concentrate on responding to any instruction or request from the EPA in the first instance.

9.4 Incident Investigation

9.4.1 Avoid Recurrence

Corrective actions arising out of incident reports or investigation reports are to be recorded ensuring assignment of relevant responsible party and timeframes for completion. Timeframes shall be based on level of severity. Investigations will be conducted by the HSE Manager or their delegate, and an elected incident investigation team in conjunction with relevant HSRs where the incident is considered to be sufficiently complex so as to require these additional resources. Where possible, investigations shall be completed within 48 hours of the incident occurring.

Investigations involving a level of complexity and requiring additional resources to carry out shall apply the ICAM (Incident Cause Analysis Method). All ICAM investigations shall be performed by a multidisciplinary team and shall be led by a trained and qualified ICAM Lead Investigator.

Where there is a potential consequence of an incident that is deemed to a level of “Major” (as per the Corporate Risk Consequence Table) or above, an Incident Cause Analysis Method (ICAM) level investigation shall be conducted. This will also apply to any other investigation that it is deemed necessary to be conducted as a more thorough process.

The GLC HSE Manager or their delegate shall appoint the ICAM Lead Investigator as appropriate (including themselves). The ICAM Lead Investigator will be independent from the work area where the incident took place.

A member of GLC Management Team will be assigned to the investigation team (as champion), preferably the project Manager. The ICAM Investigation process shall be started immediately on determination of classification.

Investigation reports shall be recorded using the Investigation Report Form. Depending on the nature of the investigation, responsibility for reviewing the report and actioning specific deliverables shall fall to the GLC project Manager.

Consultation processes for any Incident or emergency shall be in place and communicated to the project workforce with HSRs playing a role in formulating the consultation processes.

Corrective actions arising out of incident reports or investigation reports are to be recorded ensuring assignment of relevant responsible party and timeframes for completion. Timeframes shall be based on level of severity. In addition, corrective actions are to include a review and revision of the relevant project Risk Assessment, Risk Assessments, SWMS and JSEAs.

The HSE Manager or their delegate is responsible for keeping all incident data and information and for the production and distribution of health and safety performance reports, including monthly analysis of incident information and trending data. Contractors will provide HSE Monthly Reports on safety statistics and incident information.

9.4.2 Restoration

The other purpose of the incident investigation will be to define the appropriate remediation work required in order to address any bio-physical impact of the incident. The appropriate remediation work (if required) will be determined by the specific circumstances of the incident.

9.5 Incident Reporting

9.5.1 Documentation

Any environmental incident will be recorded on an Environmental Incident Report and an updated Environmental Incidents Register will be maintained. This will include near miss incidents, which are unplanned incidents which had the potential to cause harm to the environmental, personal or property. Each Environmental Incident Report will include details on:

- The date, time and duration of the incident
- Clarify whether there was material harm to the environment
- Detail the nature of the incident
- Climatic conditions
- The location of the incident
- Pollutants involved
- Circumstances in which the incident occurred
- Corrective action taken
- External notification, where applicable.

9.5.2 Dissemination

For an incident in which material harm has or could have resulted and the EPA, WorkSafe NSW, NSW Ministry of Health, Fire and Rescue and DPE have been notified, the HSE Manager will provide reporting to these entities as may be instructed, in accordance with the timeframes that may be so specified by them.

10 Emergency Response

The Development Consent requires that an Emergency Response Plan and Fire Safety Study be prepared in consultation with the Rural Fire Service (RFS) and Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW). A Fire and Emergency Response Plan (FERP) has been prepared in consultation with RFS and FRNSW to satisfy the requirements of both the Emergency Response Plan and Fire Safety Study. The FERP will be approved by the Secretary prior to commencing construction of the battery storage facility.

Table 10-1 below provides a guide to the FERP, indicating which specific Emergency Response Procedure (ERP) should be followed in the event of various specific hazards and risks eventuating during the Project.

Table 10-1 List of emergency response procedures developed for the NESF within the Fire and Emergency Response Plan

ERP	Section	ERP Number
Building/structure collapse	Section 5.1 of the FERP	ERP 1
Bushfire/grassfire	Section 5.2 of the FERP	ERP 2
Earthquake	Section 5.3 of the FERP	ERP 3
Electrocution	Section 5.4 of the FERP	ERP 4
Explosion	Section 5.5 of the FERP	ERP 5
Extreme temperature/heatwave	Section 5.6 of the FERP	ERP 6
Fire - industrial	Section 5.7 of the FERP	ERP 7
Fire - building	Section 5.8 of the FERP	ERP 8
Fire - smoke	Section 5.9 of the FERP	ERP 9
Flood	Section 5.10 of the FERP	ERP 10
Hazardous substance spill	Section 5.11 of the FERP	ERP 11
LPG leak/Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapour Explosion event	Section 5.12 of the FERP	ERP 12
Personal injury/medical emergency	Section 5.13 of the FERP	ERP 13
Powerline down or vehicle contact	Section 5.14 of the FERP	ERP 14
Severe storm event/lightning	Section 5.15 of the FERP	ERP 15
Site evacuation	Section 5.16 of the FERP	ERP 16
Snake bite	Section 5.17 of the FERP	ERP 17
Trench/excavation collapse	Section 5.18 of the FERP	ERP 18
Vehicle incident	Section 5.19 of the FERP	ERP 19

11 Environmental Monitoring

Condition 1 of Schedule 4 requires that the Environmental Management strategy must:

e) include:

» *a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development.*

Environmental monitoring conducted as part of the development is included in Appendix E. The latest version of the environmental monitoring schedule is maintained on the NESF website. Further detail of each monitoring requirement is provided in the relevant environmental strategies, plans and programs.

The objective of the monitoring is to validate the impacts predicted for NESF, to measure the effectiveness of environmental controls and implementation of this EMS, and to address specific requirements.

GLC and ACEN Australia will respond in a timely manner to any requests in relation to monitoring or effectiveness of environmental controls and their implementation raised by NSW Government Agencies.

Should monitoring lead to the identification of a notifiable incident or other non-compliance, the notification measures outlined in Sections 8.4 and 9.3 would be followed, as relevant. Should monitoring be in response to a received complaint, the complaint response measures outlined in Section 6 would be followed.

12 References

- EMM Consulting (2019a) New England Solar Farm – Environmental Impact Statement. February 2019.
- EMM Consulting (2019b) New England Solar Farm – Amendment Report. June 2019.
- EMM Consulting (2019c) New England Solar Farm – Submissions Report. June 2019.
- EMM Consulting (2019d) New England Solar Farm – Additional Information, October 2019. October 2019.
- EMM Consulting (2019e) New England Solar Farm – Additional Information, December 2019. December 2019.
- EMM Consulting (2020) New England Solar Farm – Modification 1 Report.
- UPC Renewables (2020a) New England Solar Farm (SSD 9255) – IPC Responses (7 February 2020).
- UPC Renewables (2020b) New England Solar Farm (SSD 9255) – IPC Responses (18 February 2020).

Appendix A UPC\AC Renewables Environmental Policy

UPC/AC RENEWABLES AUSTRALIA

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

UPC/AC Renewables Australia (UPC/AC) is committed to undertaking our business activities in an environmentally sensitive and forward thinking manner. To achieve this, we will:

- Comply with environmental laws and regulations in all work locations as an absolute minimum,
- Understand and manage potential environmental risks at all work locations,
- Contribute to the overall health and resiliency of ecosystems in all work locations,
- Participate in integrated approaches to land use planning,
- Identify and implement opportunities for efficient energy and water usage,
- Identify and implement opportunities for waste avoidance and minimisation,
- Report annually to all stakeholders on our environmental activities.



Anton Rohner
Chief Executive Officer
April 2019



David Pollington
Chief Operations Officer
April 2019

Appendix B GLC Environmental Policy

POLICY STATEMENT

Green Light Contractors (GLC) undertakes a reflective, resourceful, inclusive and flexible approach to environmental management, underpinned by a robust ISO 14001 certified integrated management system. We commit to:

LEAD

- Having visible and demonstrated environmental leadership throughout the business to equip, inspire, empower and lead our people to win and deliver environmentally sound projects.
- Ensuring strong and positive leadership engagement with tender and project delivery teams at all levels to understand and resolve the environmental challenges they face.
- Establishing measurable objectives and targets to quantify our environmental performance, committing to and demonstrating continual improvement.

GROW

- Promoting innovative thinking and practices to achieve positive environmental outcomes.
- Understanding our customers, business partners and subcontractors' environmental capabilities and priorities and working together to develop common strategies to achieve shared goals.

DELIVER

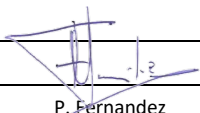
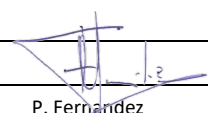
- Identifying and communicating non-conformities, lessons learnt and corrective actions arising from environmental incidents to enhance environmental performance.
- Complying with applicable environmental legislation, regulations, codes of practice, customer and project specific requirements.
- Provision of the necessary resources and management support to achieve environmental goals.

SUSTAIN

- Equipping all employees with the knowledge, skills and resources to achieve our environmental goals. Engaging with employees, subcontractors, customers, and other key stakeholders on environmental issues.
- Monitoring our environmental performance and identifying initiatives that lead to improved environmental outcomes.

PROTECT

- Developing and implementing methods to protect the environment, prevent pollution and eliminate or minimise significant environmental impacts.
- Ensuring the efficient use of resources including energy, water and materials, and providing responsible waste management.

00	02/07/2019	 Mark Donnelly	 P. Fernandez	 P. Fernandez
REVISION	DATE	PREPARED	CHECKED	APPROVED

Appendix C UGL/CIMIC Environmental Policy

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

This Policy sets out the minimum requirements for Environmental Matters across CIMIC Group Limited and entities it controls (**the Group**).

This Policy applies to all employees of the Group, third parties engaged by the Group, and all alliances and joint ventures in all jurisdictions.

Any employee of the Group found to have breached this Policy may be subject to disciplinary action.

The **objectives** of this Policy are to prevent and minimise environmental damage from the Group's activities, complying with all environmental obligations and promoting sustainable resource use in its operations (**Environmental Matters**).

Requirements

Each Operating Company will comply with all applicable environmental legal, regulatory and contractual requirements, and deliver all contract works under an environmental management system certified to regulation standards.

The Operating Companies are responsible for managing the Environmental Matters associated with their operations and displaying continuous improvement in their environmental performance.

Each Operating Company is to provide reports to the CIMIC CEO for presentation to the CIMIC Board Ethics Compliance & Sustainability Committee commenting on Environmental Matters, as required.

CIMICⁱ is required to ensure compliance with those obligations that cannot be delegated to its Operating Companies.

Policy Information

Owner:	Chief Human Resources Officer, CIMIC
Approved by:	Chief Executive Officer, CIMIC
Effective date:	23 September 2016

Note: CIMIC Group policies may be amended from time to time.

ⁱ CIMIC is defined as CIMIC Group Limited

Appendix D Development Consent SSD 9255

Development Consent

Section 4.38 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*

The Independent Planning Commission of NSW approves consent to the development application referred to in Schedule 1, subject to the conditions in Schedules 2 to 4.

These conditions are required to:

- prevent, minimise and/or offset adverse environmental impacts;
- set standards and performance measures for acceptable environmental performance;
- require regular monitoring and reporting; and
- provide for the ongoing environmental management of the development.

Andrew Hutton (Chair)
Member of the Commission

Professor Zada Lipman
Member of the Commission

Professor Snow Barlow
Member of the Commission

Sydney

9 March 2020

SCHEDULE 1

Application Number:	SSD 9255
Applicant:	UPC Renewables Australia Pty Ltd
Consent Authority:	Independent Planning Commission
Land:	See Appendix 2
Development:	New England Solar Farm

Red type represents February 2021 Modification

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEFINITIONS	3
ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS	5
Obligation to Minimise Harm to the Environment	5
Terms of Consent	5
Upgrading of Solar Panels and Ancillary Infrastructure	5
Structural Adequacy	5
Demolition	5
Protection of Public Infrastructure	5
Operation of Plant and Equipment	6
Subdivision Plan	6
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS – GENERAL	7
Transport	7
Landscaping	8
Land Management	8
Biodiversity	8
Amenity	10
Heritage	10
Soil and Water	11
Hazards	12
Waste	12
Accommodation and Employment Strategy	13
Decommissioning and Rehabilitation	13
SCHEDULE 4	14
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING	14
Environmental Management	14
Notifications	14
Compliance	15
Independent Environmental Audit	15
Access to Information	16
APPENDIX 1: GENERAL LAYOUT OF DEVELOPMENT	17
APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE OF LAND	18
APPENDIX 3: SUBDIVISION PLAN	19
APPENDIX 4: ROAD UPGRADES AND SITE ACCESS	20
APPENDIX 5: ABORIGINAL HERITAGE ITEMS	30
APPENDIX 6: HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEMS	32
APPENDIX 7: INCIDENT NOTIFICATION & REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	34

DEFINITIONS

Aboriginal stakeholders	Aboriginal stakeholders registered for cultural heritage consultation for the development
Ancillary infrastructure	All project infrastructure with the exception of solar panels, including but not limited to collector substations, switching stations, permanent offices, battery storage and site compounds, electricity transmission lines and internal roads
Applicant	UPC Renewables Australia Pty Ltd, or any person who seeks to carry out the development approved under this consent
Battery storage	Large scale energy storage system
BCS	Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate within the Department
Cessation of operations	Operation of the development has ceased for a continuous period of 12 months
Conditions of this consent	Conditions contained in Schedules 1 to 4 inclusive
Construction	The construction of the development, including but not limited to the carrying out of any earthworks on site and the construction of solar panels and any ancillary infrastructure (but excludes road upgrades or maintenance works to the public road network, building/road dilapidation surveys, installation of fencing, artefact survey and/or salvage, overhead line safety marking and geotechnical drilling and/or surveying)
Council	Uralla Shire Council
Decommissioning	The removal of solar panels and ancillary infrastructure and/or rehabilitation of the site
Department	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Development	The development as described in the EIS
Development footprint	The area within the site on which the components of the project will be constructed (shown in Appendix 1)
DPIE Water	Water Group within the Department
EIS	The Environmental Impact Statement for New England Solar Farm dated February 2019, the Amendment Report dated June 2019, the Response to Submissions dated June 2019, additional information dated 31 October 2019 and 10 December 2019, the subdivision plan (see Appendix 3) and the additional information provided to the Independent Planning Commission of NSW on 7 February 2020 and 18 February 2020, as amended by: <i>New England Solar Farm Modification Application – Modification Report dated 16 December 2020.</i>
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EP&A Regulation	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i>
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
Feasible	Feasible relates to engineering considerations and what is practical to build or implement
FRNSW	Fire and Rescue NSW
Heavy vehicle	A vehicle that has a combined Gross Vehicle Mass or Aggregate Trailer Mass of more than 4.5 tonnes
Heritage item	An item as defined under the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> and/or an Aboriginal Object or Aboriginal Place as defined under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
Heritage NSW	Heritage NSW within the Department of Premier and Cabinet
Incident	A set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm to the environment
Material harm	Is harm that: - involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial; or - results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000 (such loss includes the reasonable costs and expenses that would be incurred in taking all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent, mitigate or make good harm to the environment)
Minister	Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, or delegate
Minimise	Implement all reasonable and feasible mitigation measures to reduce the impacts of the development
Non-compliance	An occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of this consent but is not an incident
Operation	The operation of the development, but does not include commissioning, trials of equipment or the use of temporary facilities
Over-dimensional vehicle	Over-mass and/or over-size/length vehicles
Public infrastructure	Linear and related infrastructure that provides services to the general public, such as roads, railways, water supply, drainage, sewerage, gas supply, electricity, telephone, telecommunications, irrigation channels, drainage channels

Reasonable	Reasonable relates to the application of judgement in arriving at a decision, taking into account: mitigation benefits, cost of mitigation versus benefits provided, community views and the nature and extent of potential improvements
Rehabilitation	The restoration of land disturbed by the development to a good condition, to ensure it is safe, stable and non-polluting
RFS	Rural Fire Service
Secretary	Secretary of the Department, or nominee
Site	As shown in Appendix 1 and listed in Appendix 2
TEC	Threatened ecological community, as defined under the <i>NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
Temporary facilities	Temporary facilities used for the construction, upgrading and/or decommissioning of the development, including but not limited to temporary site offices and compounds, materials storage compounds, maintenance workshops, material stockpiles, laydown areas and parking spaces
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
Upgrading	The augmentation and/or replacement of solar panels and ancillary infrastructure on site (excluding maintenance)
Vehicle movement	One vehicle entering and leaving the site

SCHEDULE 2 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS

OBLIGATION TO MINIMISE HARM TO THE ENVIRONMENT

1. In meeting the specific environmental performance criteria established under this consent, the Applicant must implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, upgrading or decommissioning of the development.

TERMS OF CONSENT

2. The Applicant must carry out the development:
 - (a) generally in accordance with the EIS; and
 - (b) in accordance with the conditions of this consent.

Note: The general layout of the development is shown in Appendix 1.

3. If there is any inconsistency between the above documents, the most recent document must prevail to the extent of the inconsistency. However, the conditions of this consent must prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.
4. The Applicant must comply with any requirement/s of the Secretary arising from the Department's assessment of:
 - (a) any strategies, plans or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with this consent;
 - (b) any reports, reviews or audits commissioned by the Department regarding compliance with this consent; and
 - (c) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents.

UPGRADING OF SOLAR PANELS AND ANCILLARY INFRASTRUCTURE

5. Over time, the Applicant may upgrade the solar panels and ancillary infrastructure on site provided these upgrades remain within the approved development footprint of the site. Prior to carrying out any such upgrades, the Applicant must provide revised layout plans and project details of the development to the Secretary incorporating the proposed upgrades.

STRUCTURAL ADEQUACY

6. The Applicant must ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the *Building Code of Australia*.

Notes:

- Under Part 6 of the EP&A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates for the development.
- Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the development.

DEMOLITION

7. The Applicant must ensure that all demolition work on site is carried out in accordance with *Australian Standard AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures*, or its latest version.

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

8. Unless the Applicant and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Applicant must:
 - (a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and
 - (b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development.

This condition does not apply to the upgrade and maintenance of the road network, which is expressly provided for in the conditions of this consent.

OPERATION OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

9. The Applicant must ensure that all plant and equipment used on site, or in connection with the development, is:
- (a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and
 - (b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.

SUBDIVISION PLAN

10. The Applicant may subdivide the site to create new allotments for the proposed substation, in accordance with the layout approved in Schedule 4 - Condition 5, and with the requirements of the EP&A Act and EP&A Regulation, and generally in accordance with the figure in Appendix 3.

Prior to subdividing the site, the Applicant must prepare and submit detailed subdivision plans to the Secretary for approval.

Notes:

- *Under Part 6 of the EP&A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain a subdivision certificate for a plan of subdivision.*
- *Division 4 of Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the application requirements for subdivision certificates*

SCHEDULE 3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS – GENERAL

TRANSPORT

Over-Dimensional and Heavy Vehicle Restrictions

1. The Applicant must ensure that the:
 - (a) development does not generate more than:
 - 56 heavy vehicle movements a day during construction, upgrading and decommissioning;
 - 6 over-dimensional vehicle movements during construction, upgrading and decommissioning; and
 - 5 heavy vehicle movements a day during operations; on the public road network;
 - (b) length of any vehicles (excluding over-dimensional vehicles) used for the development does not exceed 26 metres, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.
2. The Applicant must keep accurate records of the number of over-dimensional and heavy vehicles entering or leaving the site each day for the duration of the project.

Access Route

3. All vehicles associated with the development must travel to and from the site via the New England Highway, Barleyfields Road, Big Ridge Road and the two site access points off Big Ridge Road, as identified in the figure in Appendix 4.

Note: The Applicant is required to obtain relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of over-dimensional vehicles on the road network.

Road Upgrades and Site Access

4. Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must implement the road upgrades identified in Appendix 4. These upgrades must be carried out to the satisfaction of the relevant roads authority, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.

Operating Conditions

5. The Applicant must ensure:
 - (a) the internal roads are constructed as all-weather roads;
 - (b) there is sufficient parking on site for all vehicles, and no parking occurs on the public road network in the vicinity of the site;
 - (c) the capacity of the existing roadside drainage network is not reduced;
 - (d) all vehicles are loaded and unloaded on site, and enter and leave the site in a forward direction;
 - (e) development-related vehicles leaving the site are in a clean condition to minimise dirt being tracked onto the sealed public road network; and
 - (f) segments 4 and 5 of Big Ridge Road, identified in the figure in Appendix 4, are maintained to the standard identified in Appendix 4 at the cost of the Applicant for the life of the development, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.

Traffic Management Plan

6. Prior to commencing the development, the Applicant must prepare a Traffic Management Plan for the development in consultation with TfNSW and Council, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must include:
 - (a) details of the transport route to be used for all development-related traffic;
 - (b) a protocol for undertaking independent dilapidation surveys to assess the:
 - existing condition of Barleyfields Road and Big Ridge Road on the access route, prior to construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities; and
 - condition of Barleyfields Road and Big Ridge Road on the access route, following construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities;
 - (c) a protocol for the repair of Barleyfields Road and Big Ridge Road on the access route, if dilapidation surveys identify these roads to be damaged during construction, upgrading or decommissioning works;
 - (d) details of the road works required by condition 4 of Schedule 3 to this consent;

- (e) a protocol for the maintenance of segments 4 and 5 of Big Ridge Road required by condition 5(f) of Schedule 3 to this consent;
- (f) details of the measures that would be implemented to minimise traffic impacts during construction, upgrading or decommissioning works, including:
 - temporary traffic controls, including detours and signage;
 - notifying the local community about project-related traffic impacts;
 - procedures for receiving and addressing complaints from the community about development-related traffic;
 - minimising potential for conflict with school buses, other motorists, road users and rail services as far as practicable;
 - implement measures to minimise dirt tracked onto the public road network from development-related traffic;
 - details of the employee shuttle bus service and measures to encourage employee use of this service;
 - scheduling of haulage vehicle movements to minimise convoy length or platoons;
 - responding to local climate conditions that may affect road safety such as fog, dust, wet weather and flooding;
 - responding to any emergency repair or maintenance requirements; and
 - a traffic management system for managing over-dimensional vehicles;
- (g) a driver's code of conduct that addresses:
 - travelling speeds;
 - driver fatigue;
 - procedures to ensure that drivers adhere to the designated transport routes; and
 - procedures to ensure that drivers implement safe driving practices, including consideration of other road users; and
- (h) a program to ensure drivers working on the development receive suitable training on the code of conduct and any other relevant obligations under the Traffic Management Plan.

Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Traffic Management Plan.

LANDSCAPING

7. Within 3 years of commencement of construction, the owner of N1 may request in writing that the Applicant to plant a vegetation screen to minimise the visual impacts of the northern array on the N1 property.

Upon receiving such a written request from the owner of N1, the Applicant must implement reasonable and feasible landscape screening in consultation with the owner making the request.

The vegetation screen must:

- (a) be wholly contained within the site;
- (b) consist of native species that facilitate the screening of the view of the solar panels and ancillary infrastructure from within the N1 property;
- (c) be implemented within 12 months of receiving the written request, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise; and
- (d) be properly maintained with appropriate weed management.

If the Applicant and owner of N1 cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.

LAND MANAGEMENT

8. Following any construction or upgrading on the site, the Applicant must:
 - (a) restore the ground cover of the site as soon as practicable;
 - (b) maintain the ground cover with appropriate perennial species; and
 - (c) manage weeds within this ground cover; and
 - (d) manage feral pest species.

BIODIVERSITY

Vegetation Clearance

9. The Applicant must not clear any native vegetation or fauna habitat located outside the approved disturbance footprint described in the EIS.

Biodiversity Offsets

10. Prior to commencing the development under this consent, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits of a number and class specified in Table 1 and Table 2 below, to the satisfaction of BCS, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.

The retirement of these credits must be carried out in accordance with the *NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme* and can be achieved by:

- (a) acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*;
- (b) making payments into an offset fund that has been developed by the NSW Government; or
- (c) funding a biodiversity conservation action that benefits the entity impacted and is listed in the ancillary rules of the biodiversity offset scheme.

Table 1: Ecosystem Credit Requirements

Vegetation Community	PCT ID	Credits Required
Blakely's Red Gum - Yellow Box grassy woodland of the New England Tableland Bioregion	510	107
Silvertop Stringybark open forest of the New England Tableland Bioregion	1174	78
Broad-leaved Stringybark - Yellow Box shrub/grass open forest of the New England Tableland Bioregion	567	18

Table 2: Species Credit Requirements

Vegetation Community	Credits Required
Bluegrass (<i>Dichanthium setosum</i>)	44
Hawkweed (<i>Picris evae</i>)	43
Austral Toadflax (<i>Thesium australe</i>)	33
Pale-headed Snake (<i>Hoplocephalus bitorquatus</i>)	39
Glossy Black-Cockatoo (<i>Calyptrorhynchus lathamii</i>)	30
Squirrel Glider (<i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>)	39
Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>)	39
Barking Owl (<i>Ninox connivens</i>)	5

Biodiversity Management Plan

11. Prior to commencing the development, the Applicant must prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan for the development in consultation with BCD, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:
- (a) include a description of the measures that would be implemented for:
 - protecting vegetation and fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance areas;
 - managing the remnant vegetation and fauna habitat on site;
 - minimising clearing and avoiding unnecessary disturbance of vegetation that is associated with the construction and operation of the development;
 - minimising the impacts to fauna on site and implementing fauna management protocols;
 - avoiding the removal of hollow-bearing trees during spring to avoid the main breeding period for hollow-dependent fauna;
 - rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas with species that are endemic to the area;
 - maximising the salvage of vegetative and soil resources within the approved disturbance area for beneficial reuse in the enhancement or the rehabilitation of the site; and
 - controlling weeds and feral pests; and
 - (b) include details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing and implementing the plan, and timeframes for completion of actions.

Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Biodiversity Management Plan.

Note: If the biodiversity credits are retired via a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement, then the Biodiversity Management Plan does not need to include any of the matters that are covered under the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement.

AMENITY

Construction, Upgrading and Decommissioning Hours

12. Unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant may only undertake construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities on site between:
- (a) 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday;
 - (b) 8 am to 1 pm Saturdays; and
 - (c) at no time on Sundays and NSW public holidays.

The following construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities may be undertaken outside these hours without the approval of the Secretary:

- the delivery of materials as requested by the NSW Police Force or other authorities for safety reasons; or
- emergency work to avoid the loss of life, property and/or material harm to the environment.

Noise

13. The Applicant must minimise the noise generated by any construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities on site in accordance with the best practice requirements outlined in the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* (DECC, 2009), or its latest version.

Dust

14. The Applicant must ensure all operations and activities occurring at the site are carried out in a manner that minimises dust including the emission of wind-blown or traffic generated dust.

Visual

15. The Applicant must:
- (a) minimise the off-site visual impacts of the development, including the potential for any glare or reflection;
 - (b) ensure the visual appearance of all ancillary infrastructure (including paint colours) blends in with the surrounding landscape, where reasonable and feasible; and
 - (c) not mount any advertising signs or logos on site, except where this is required for identification or safety purposes.

Lighting

16. The Applicant must:
- (a) minimise the off-site lighting impacts of the development; and
 - (b) ensure that any external lighting associated with the development:
 - is installed as low intensity lighting (except where required for safety or emergency purposes);
 - does not shine above the horizontal; and
 - complies with *Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 4282:2019 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting*, or its latest version.

HERITAGE

17. Prior to the commencing the development, the Applicant must undertake consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders, in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW, 2010), or its latest version.

Protection of Heritage Items

18. The Applicant must ensure the development does not cause any direct or indirect impacts on the Aboriginal heritage items identified in Table 1 of Appendix 5 or the historic heritage items identified in Table 1 of Appendix 6, or any Aboriginal or historic heritage items located outside the approved development footprint.

Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact the heritage items identified in Table 2 of Appendix 5, the Applicant must salvage and relocate the item/s that would be impacted to a suitable alternative location, in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW, 2010), or its latest version.

Note: The location of the Aboriginal heritage and historic heritage items referred to in this condition are shown in the figures in Appendix 5 and Appendix 6, respectively.

Heritage Management Plan

19. Prior to commencing the development, the Applicant must prepare a Heritage Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:
- (a) be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;
 - (b) be prepared in consultation with Heritage NSW, Aboriginal Stakeholders and Council;
 - (c) include a description of the measures that would be implemented for:
 - protecting the Aboriginal heritage items identified in Table 1 of Appendix 5 or items located outside the approved development footprint, including fencing off Aboriginal heritage items prior to commencing construction and providing ongoing access and management opportunities for Aboriginal people to NE09 and NE68;
 - salvaging and relocating the Aboriginal heritage items located within the approved development footprint, as identified in Table 2 of Appendix 5;
 - protecting the historic heritage items identified in Table 1 of Appendix 6 or items located outside the approved development footprint;
 - managing the impact of the development on the historic heritage items identified in Table 2 of Appendix 6, including photographic archival records prepared in accordance with Heritage Council of NSW Guidelines for archival recordings;
 - a contingency plan and reporting procedure if:
 - previously unidentified heritage items are found; or
 - Aboriginal skeletal material is discovered;
 - ensuring workers on site receive suitable heritage inductions prior to carrying out any development on site, and that records are kept of these inductions; and
 - ongoing consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders during the implementation of the plan;
 - (d) include a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures and any heritage impacts of the project.

Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Heritage Management Plan.

SOIL AND WATER

Water Supply

20. Prior to the commencement of the development the Applicant must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the Applicant has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply.

Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain the necessary water licences for the development.

Water Pollution

21. The Applicant must ensure that the development does not cause any water pollution, as defined under Section 120 of the POEO Act.

Operating Conditions

22. The Applicant must:
- (a) minimise the siting of solar panels and ancillary infrastructure (including security fencing) within watercourses within the approved development footprint;
 - (b) ensure the solar panels and ancillary infrastructure (including security fencing) are designed, constructed and maintained to reduce impacts on surface water, flooding and groundwater at the site;
 - (c) minimise any soil erosion associated with the construction, upgrading or decommissioning of the development in accordance with the relevant requirements in the *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction* (Landcom, 2004) manual, or its latest version;
 - (d) ensure the solar panels and ancillary infrastructure are designed, constructed and maintained to avoid causing any erosion on site; and
 - (e) ensure all works are undertaken in accordance with the following, unless otherwise agreed by DPIE Water:
 - *Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land* (NRAR, 2018), or its latest version; and
 - *Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings* (2004), or its latest version.

HAZARDS

Fire Safety Study

23. Prior to commencing construction of the battery storage facility, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must prepare a Fire Safety Study for the development, in consultation with FRNSW and RFS and to the satisfaction of FRNSW and the Secretary. The study must:
- be consistent with the:
 - Department's *Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 2 'Fire Safety Study'* guideline; and
 - NSW Government's *Best Practice Guidelines for Contaminated Water Retention and Treatment Systems*; and
 - describe the final design of the battery storage facility.

Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the measures described in the Fire Safety Study.

Storage and Handling of Dangerous Goods

24. The Applicant must store and handle all chemicals, fuels and oils used on-site in accordance with:
- the requirements of all relevant Australian Standards; and
 - the NSW EPA's *Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Handbook* if the chemicals are liquids.

In the event of an inconsistency between the requirements listed from (a) to (b) above, the most stringent requirement must prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

Operating Conditions

25. The Applicant must:
- minimise the fire risks of the development, including managing vegetation fuel loads on-site;
 - ensure that the development:
 - includes at least a 10 metre defendable space around the perimeter of the solar array area and battery storage facility that permits unobstructed vehicle access;
 - manages the defendable space and solar array areas as an Asset Protection Zone;
 - complies with the relevant asset protection requirements in the RFS's *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 (or equivalent)* and *Standards for Asset Protection Zones*;
 - is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site including provision of a 20,000 litre water supply tank fitted with a 65mm Storz fitting and a FRNSW compatible suction connection located adjacent to the internal access road;
 - assist the RFS and emergency services as much as practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site; and
 - notify the relevant local emergency management committee following construction of the development, and prior to commencing operations.

Emergency Plan

26. Prior to commissioning operations, the Applicant must develop and implement a comprehensive Emergency Plan and detailed emergency procedures for the development, to the satisfaction of FRNSW and the RFS. The Applicant must keep two copies of the plan on-site in a prominent position adjacent to the site entry points at all times. The plan must:
- be consistent with the Department's *Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 1, 'Emergency Planning'*;
 - identify the fire risks and controls of the development; and
 - include procedures that would be implemented if there is a fire on-site or in the vicinity of the site.

Following approval, the Applicant must implement the Emergency Plan.

WASTE

27. The Applicant must:
- minimise and manage the waste generated by the development in accordance with the EPA's waste hierarchy objectives of avoidance, resource recovery and then disposal;
 - classify all waste generated on site in accordance with the EPA's *Waste Classification Guidelines 2014* (or its latest version);
 - store and handle all waste on site in accordance with its classification;

- (d) not receive or dispose of any waste on site; and
- (e) remove all waste from the site as soon as practicable, and ensure it is sent to an appropriately licensed waste facility for disposal.

ACCOMMODATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

28. Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare an Accommodation and Employment Strategy for the development in consultation with Council, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:
- (a) propose a strategy to ensure there is sufficient accommodation for the workforce associated with the development;
 - (b) consider the cumulative impacts associated with other State significant development projects in the area;
 - (c) investigate options for prioritising the employment of local workers for the construction and operation of the development, where feasible;
 - (d) include a program to monitor and review the effectiveness of the strategy over the life of the development, including regular monitoring and review during construction.

Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Accommodation and Employment Strategy.

DECOMMISSIONING AND REHABILITATION

29. Within 18 months of the cessation of operations, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 3.

Table 3: Rehabilitation Objectives

Feature	Objective
Site	• Safe, stable and non-polluting • Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use
Solar farm infrastructure	• To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise
Land use	• Restore land capability to pre-existing use (at least Class 3 Land Capability for areas of mapped Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land)
Community	• Ensure public safety at all times

30. Within 3 years of commencement of operation, the Applicant must prepare a Decommissioning & Rehabilitation Plan for the development which shall be reviewed by the Applicant prior to the cessation of operations, to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The plan must:
- (a) include detailed completion criteria for evaluating compliance with the rehabilitation objectives in Table 3 above;
 - (b) describe the measures that would be implemented to:
 - decommission the development and rehabilitate the site in accordance with the objectives in Table 3;
 - minimise and manage the waste generated by the decommissioning of the development in accordance with the obligations in condition 27 above; and
 - (c) include a program to monitor and report on the implementation of these measures against the detailed completion criteria.

The Applicant must decommission and rehabilitate the site in accordance with the approved Decommissioning & Rehabilitation Plan.

SCHEDULE 4

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management Strategy

1. Prior to commencing the development, the Applicant must prepare an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:
 - (a) provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the development;
 - (b) identify the statutory approvals that apply to the development;
 - (c) describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development;
 - (d) describe the procedures that would be implemented to:
 - keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development;
 - receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;
 - resolve any disputes that may arise;
 - respond to any non-compliance;
 - respond to emergencies; and
 - (e) include:
 - references to any plans approved under the conditions of this consent; and
 - a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development.

Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Environmental Management Strategy.

Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs

2. The Applicant must:
 - (a) update the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary prior to carrying out any upgrading or decommissioning activities on site; and
 - (b) review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary within 1 month of the:
 - submission of an incident report under condition 7 of Schedule 4;
 - submission of an audit report under condition 9 of Schedule 4; or
 - any modification to the conditions of this consent.

Updating and Staging of Strategies, Plans or Programs

3. With the approval of the Secretary, the Applicant may submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a progressive basis.

To ensure the strategies, plans or programs under the conditions of this consent are updated on a regular basis, the Applicant may at any time submit revised strategies, plans or programs to the Secretary for approval.

With the agreement of the Secretary, the Applicant may prepare any revised strategy, plan or program without undertaking consultation with all the parties referred to under the relevant condition of this consent.

Notes:

- *While any strategy, plan or program may be submitted on a progressive basis, the Applicant must ensure that all development being carried out on site is covered by suitable strategies, plans or programs at all times.*
- *If the submission of any strategy, plan or program is to be staged, then the relevant strategy, plan or program must clearly describe the specific stage to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of this stage to any future stages, and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program.*

NOTIFICATIONS

Notification of Department

4. Prior to commencing the construction, operations, upgrading or decommissioning of the development or the cessation of operations, the Applicant must notify the Department in writing via the Major Projects website portal of the date of commencement, or cessation, of the relevant phase.

If any of these phases of the development are to be staged, then the Applicant must notify the Department in writing prior to commencing the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage.

Final Layout Plans

5. Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must submit detailed plans of the final layout of the development to the Secretary, including details on the siting of solar panels and ancillary infrastructure, via the Major Projects website.

Work as Executed Plans

6. Prior to commencing operations, or following the upgrades of any solar panels or ancillary infrastructure, the Applicant must submit work as executed plans of the development to the Secretary, via the Major Projects website.

COMPLIANCE

Incident Notification

7. The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website portal immediately after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and the name of the development if it has one), and set out the location and nature of the incident. Subsequent notification requirements must be given, and reports submitted in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 7.

Non-Compliance Notification

8. The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website portal within 7 days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance.
9. A non-compliance notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been done, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.
10. A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.

INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

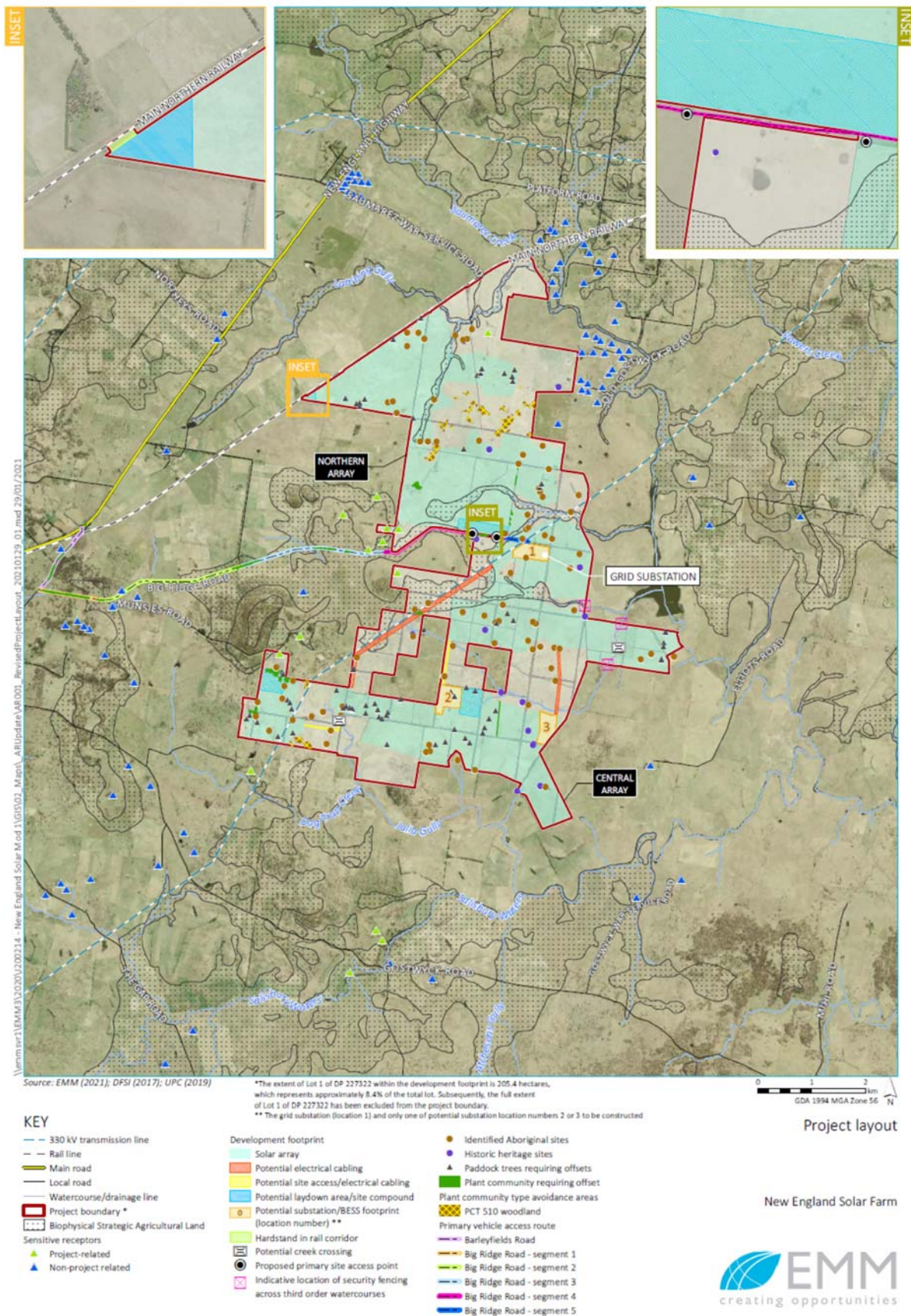
11. Independent Audits of the development must be conducted and carried out in accordance with the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (2020)* to the following frequency:
 - (a) within 3 months of commencing construction; and
 - (b) within 3 months of commencement of operations.
- 11A. Proposed independent auditors be agreed to in writing by the Planning Secretary prior to the commencement of an Independent Audit.
- 11B. The Planning Secretary may require the initial and subsequent Independent Audits to be undertaken at different times to those specified in condition 11 of Schedule 4 upon giving at least 4 weeks' notice to the Applicant of the date upon which the audit must be commenced.
- 11C. In accordance with the specific requirements of the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (2020)*, the Applicant must:
 - (a) review and respond to each Independent Audit Report prepared under condition 11 of Schedule 4 of the consent, or condition 11B of Schedule 4 where notice is given by the Planning Secretary;
 - (b) submit the response to the Planning Secretary; and
 - (c) make each Independent Audit Report, and response to it, publicly available within 60 days of submission to the Planning Secretary unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary.
- 11D. Independent Audit Reports and the Applicant's response to audit findings must be submitted to the Planning Secretary within 2 months of undertaking the independent audit and site inspection as outlined in the *Independent Audit Post Approvals Requirements (2020)* unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary.

- 11E. Notwithstanding the requirements of the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (2020)*, the Planning Secretary may approve a request or ongoing independent operational audits to be ceased, where it has been demonstrated to the Planning Secretary's satisfaction that independent operational audits have demonstrated operational compliance.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

12. The Applicant must:
- (a) make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development:
 - the EIS;
 - the final layout plans for the development (Schedule 4, Condition 5);
 - current statutory approvals for the development;
 - approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent;
 - the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation or decommissioning of the development is to be staged;
 - how complaints about the development can be made;
 - a complaints register;
 - compliance reports;
 - any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and
 - any other matter required by the Secretary; and
 - (b) keep this information up to date.

APPENDIX 1 GENERAL LAYOUT OF DEVELOPMENT



APPENDIX 2 SCHEDULE OF LAND

Lot	Deposited Plan (DP)	Lot	Deposited Plan (DP)
2	DP567937	4	DP172594
82	DP755814	B	DP172594
183	DP755827	78	DP755814
154	DP755827	84	DP755814
79	DP755814	83	DP755814
202	DP755814	80	DP755814
109	DP755827	181	DP755827
108	DP755827	182	DP755827
89	DP755827	97	DP755827
103	DP755827	2	DP127777
101	DP755827	1	DP127777
102	DP755827	39	DP755827
90	DP755827	38	DP755827
113	DP755827	5	DP127777
91	DP755827	1	DP405515
111	DP755827	37	DP755827
110	DP755827	296	DP755827
93	DP755827	221	DP755814
92	DP755827	2	DP174053
98	DP755827	1 (part lot)	DP227322
122	DP755827	8	DP173619
123	DP755827	6	DP172594
125	DP755827	21	DP1167870
124	DP755827	23	DP1171290
126	DP755827	24	DP1171290
7001	DP1072093	170	DP755814
1	DP587246	2	DP587246
3	DP109536	204	DP755814
203	DP755814	1	DP1005647
1	DP1015933	300	DP1036398
1	DP1026550	206	DP755814
207	DP755814	24	DP1171290
216	DP755814	201	DP755814

Notes:

- The project site will also be taken to include any crown land and road reserves contained within the project site
- The extent of Lot 1 of DP 227322 within the development footprint is 205.4 hectares, which represents approximately 8.4% of the total lot. Subsequently, the full extent of Lot 1 of DP 227322 has been excluded from the project boundary

APPENDIX 3 SUBDIVISION PLAN



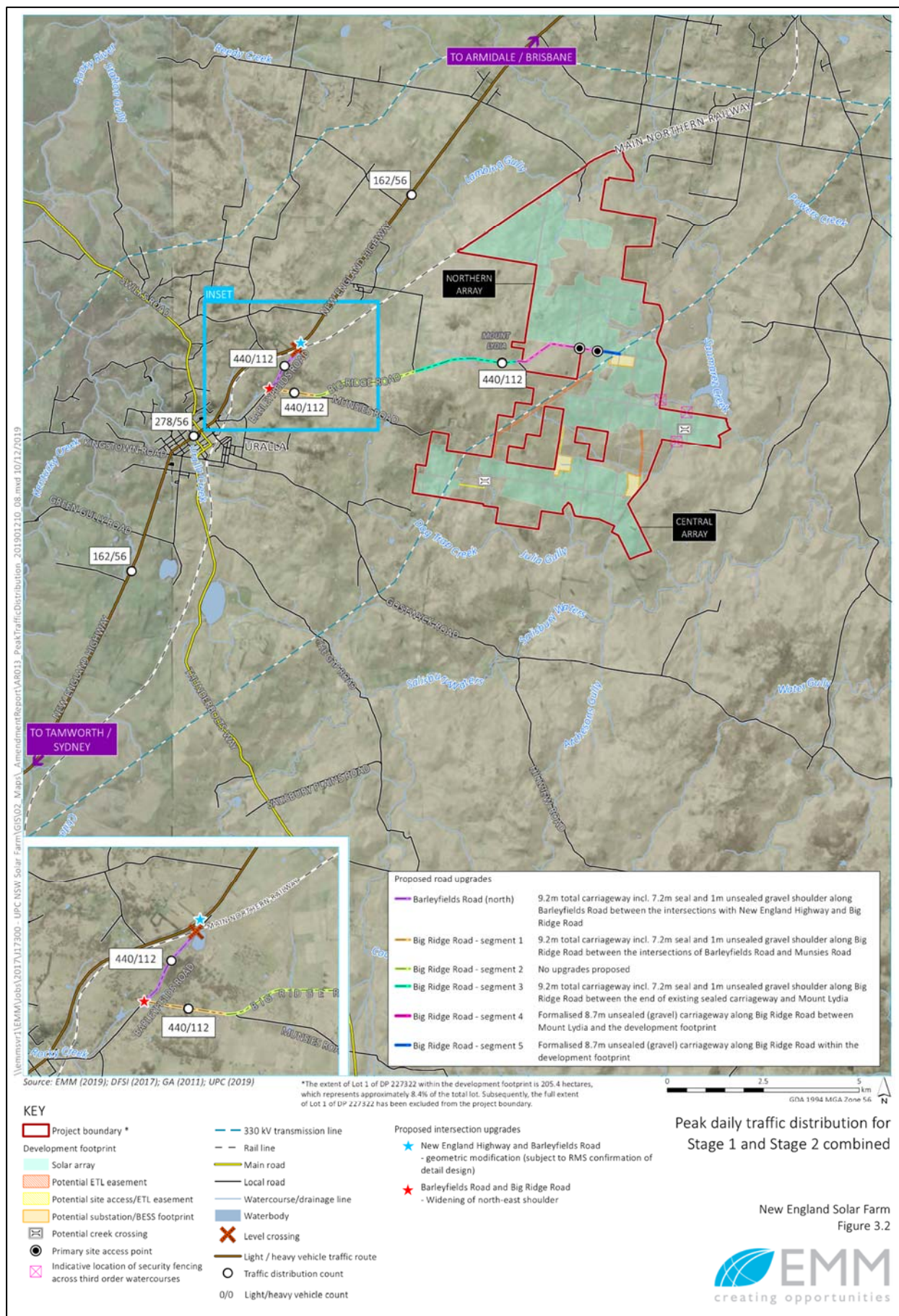
APPENDIX 4

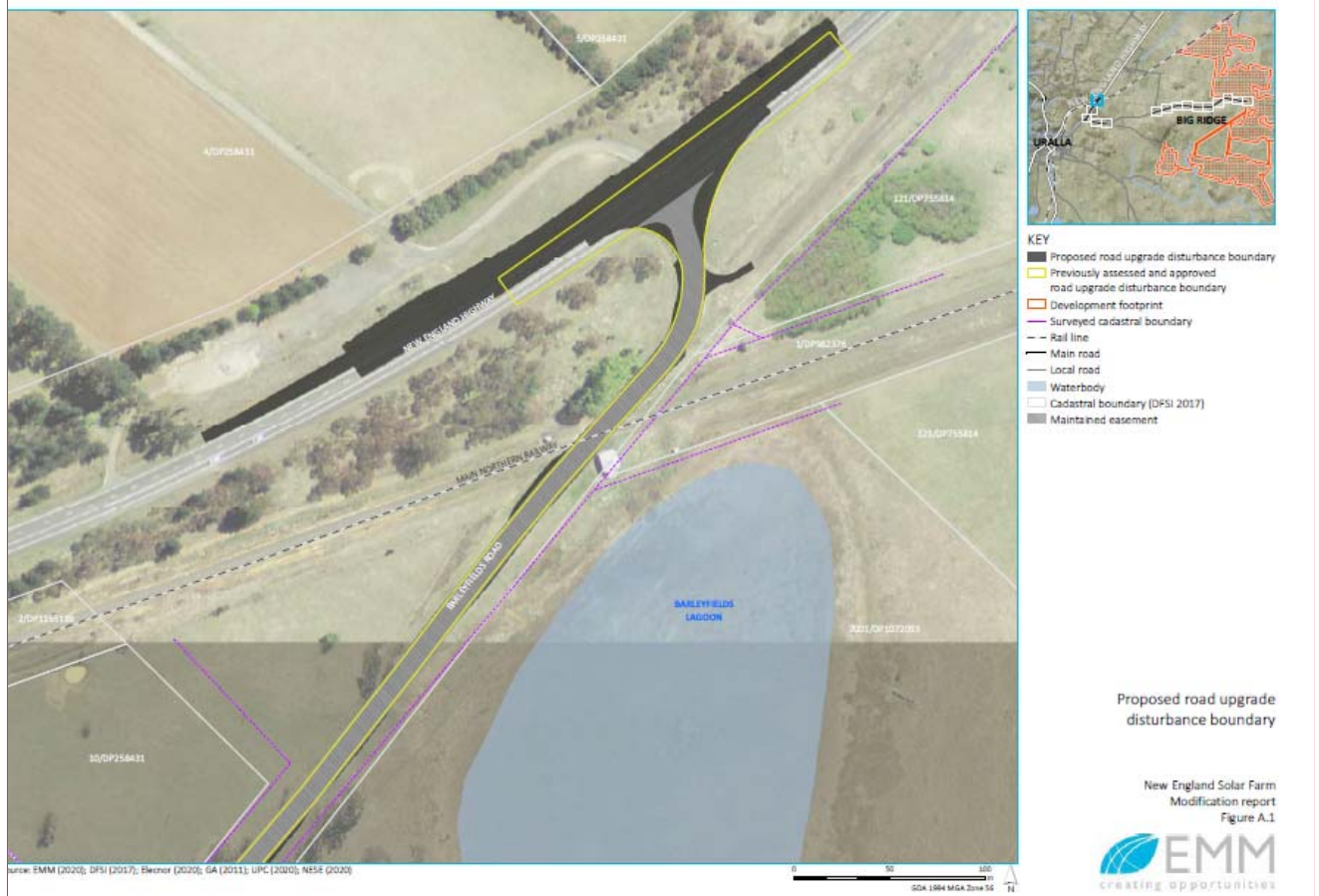
ROAD UPGRADES AND SITE ACCESS

Road	Location ¹	Upgrade Requirements	Timing
New England Highway and Barleyfields Road (north)	Intersection	Channelised Right Turn (CHR) treatment for the largest vehicle assessing the site (excluding over-dimensional vehicles) ²	Prior to construction
Barleyfields Road	Between New England Highway and Big Ridge Road	Seal to a width of 7.2 m with 1 m unsealed shoulders (total carriageway 9.2 m) ²	
Barleyfields Road and Big Ridge Road	Intersection	Basic Left Turn (BAL) treatment to cater for the largest vehicle accessing the site (excluding over-dimensional vehicles) ²	
Big Ridge Road	Segment 1	Seal to a width of 7.2 m with 1 m unsealed shoulders (total carriageway of 9.2 m) ²	
	Segment 3		
	Segment 4	Gravel (unsealed) carriageway to a width of 8.7 m	
	Segment 5		
	Site access points	Rural Property Access Type ²	

¹ Refer to the figure in Appendix 4 for the location and further details of the road upgrades.

² Upgrades must comply with the Austroads Guide to Road Design (as amended by RMS supplements).



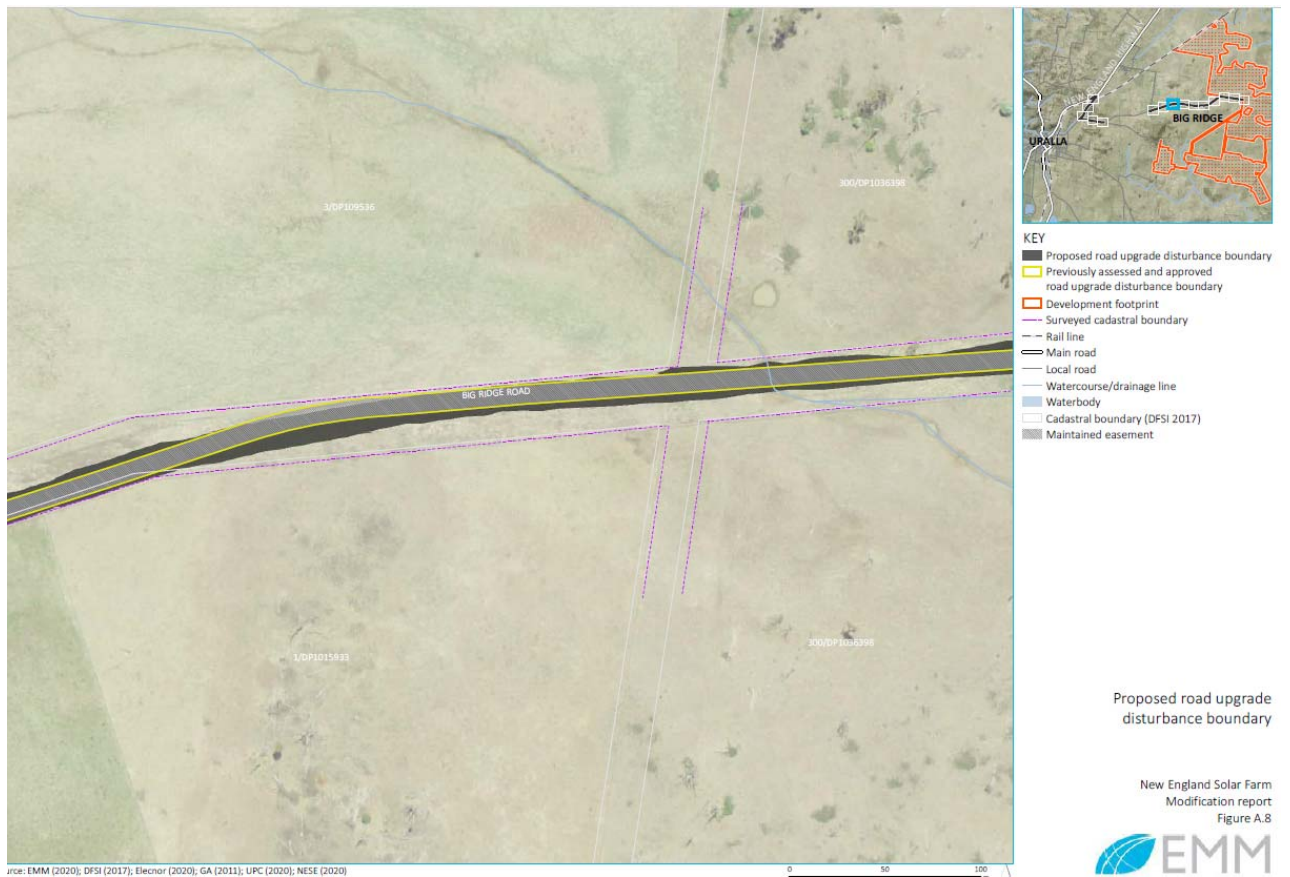
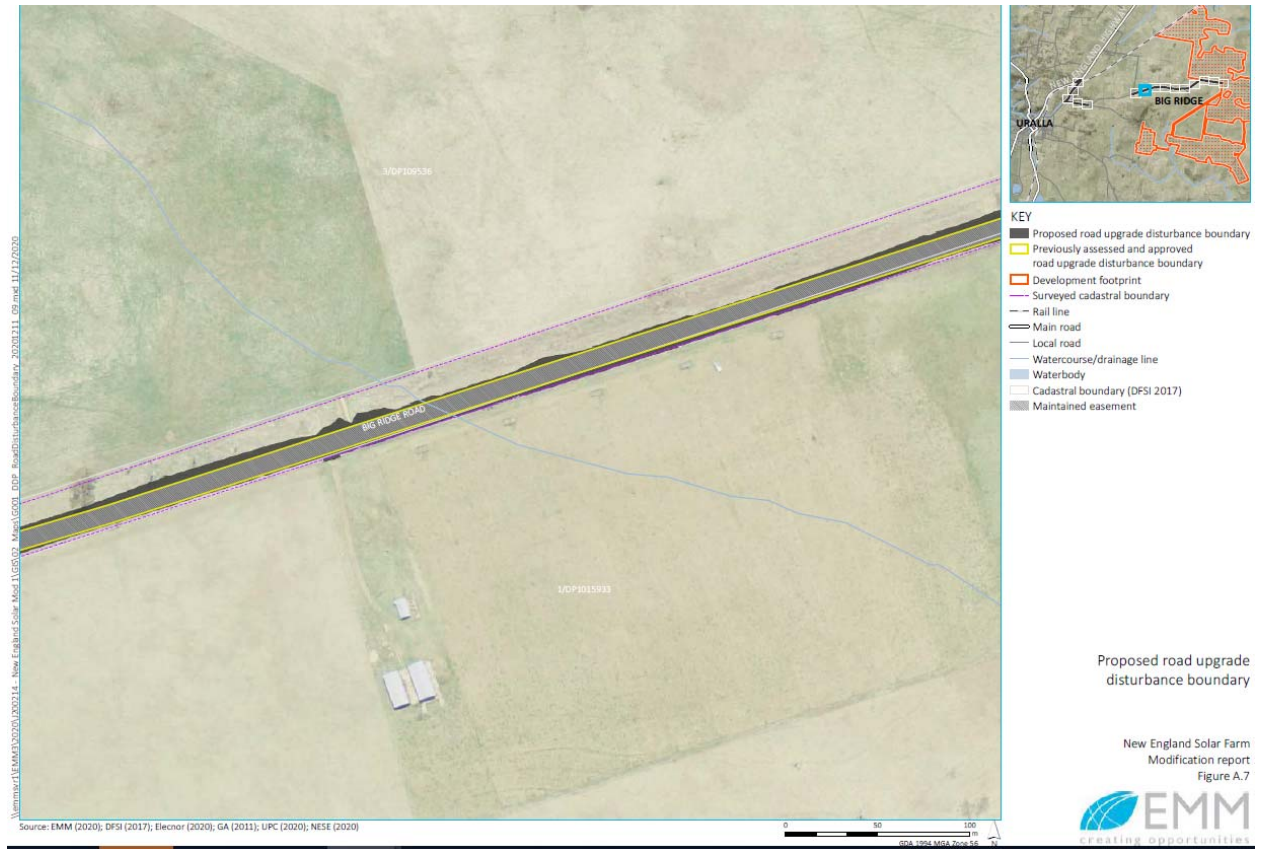


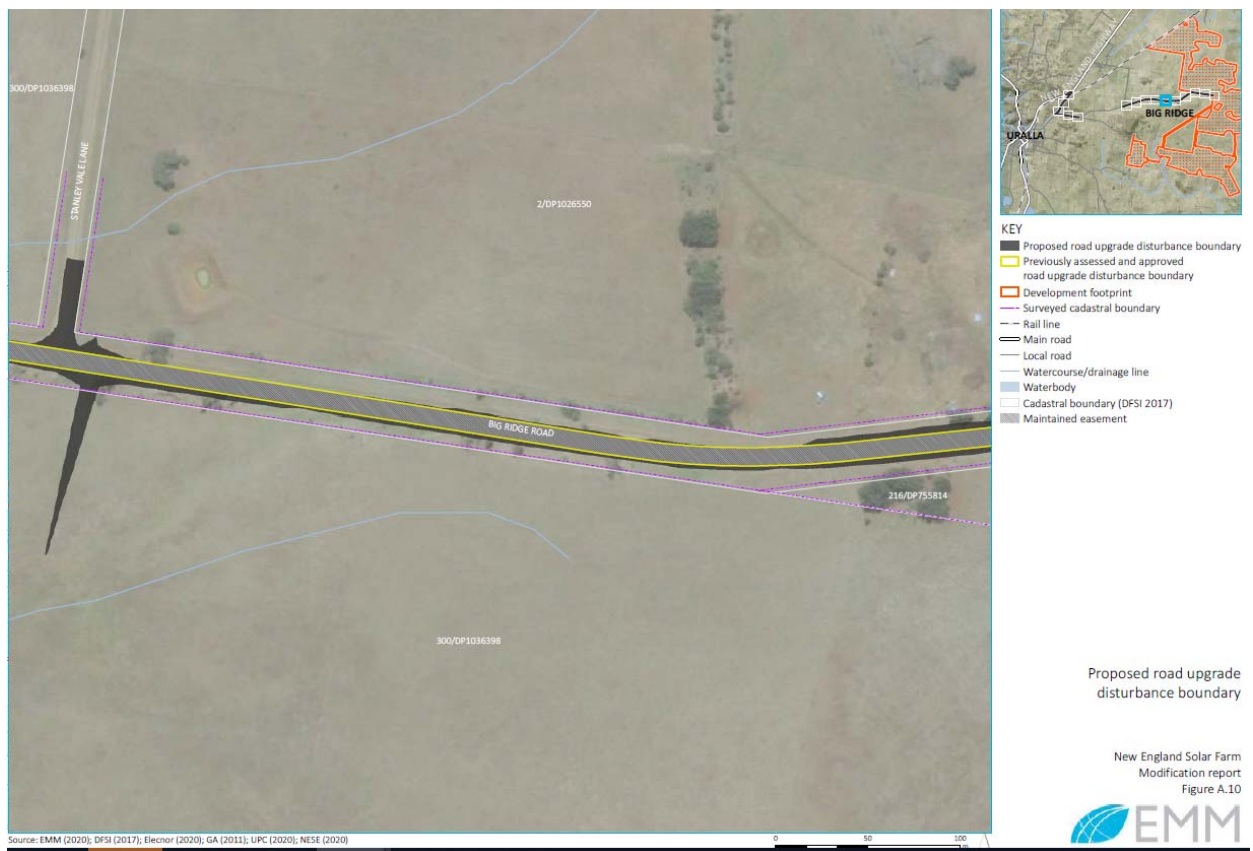
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APPENDIX 5 ABORIGINAL HERITAGE ITEMS

Table 1: Aboriginal heritage items – avoid impacts

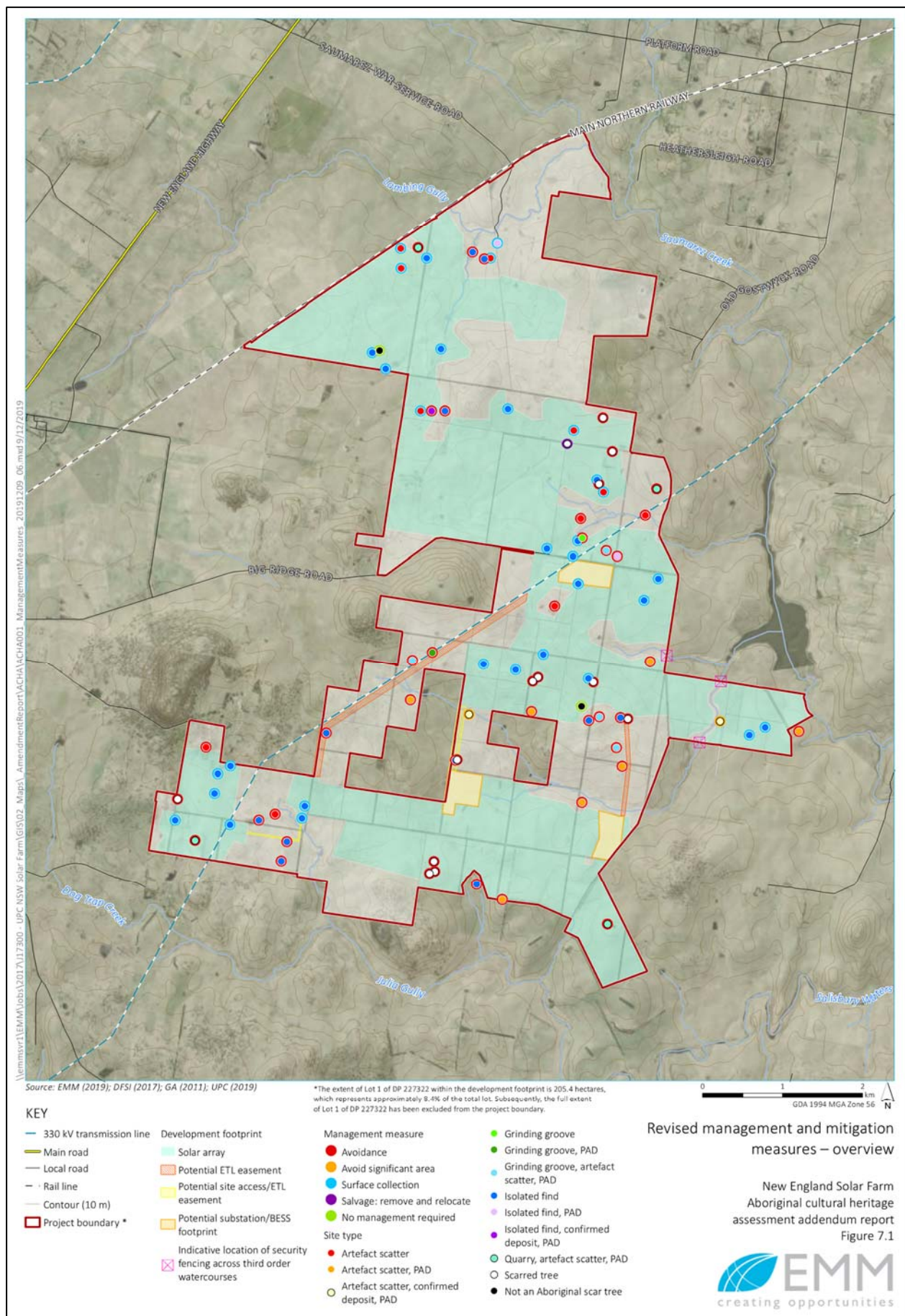
Site		
NE01	NE37	NE73
NE04	NE38	NE77
NE07	NE39	NE78
NE09	NE40	NE79
NE11	NE41	NE80
NE12	NE43	NE83
NE14	NE44	NE84
NE17	NE45	NE86
NE19	NE47	NE87
NE20	NE50	NE93
NE21	NE58	NE94
NE22	NE67	NE95
NE23	NE68	NE96
NE24	NE70*	NE97
NE25	NE71	NE100
NE26	NE72	NE102
NE27*		

* Only items outside the development footprint are to be avoided.

Table 2: Aboriginal heritage items – surface collection salvage

Site		
NE02	NE46	NE74
NE03	NE48	NE75
NE05	NE49	NE76
NE06	NE59	NE82
NE08	NE60	NE88
NE10	NE62	NE89
NE13	NE63	NE90
NE15	NE64	NE91
NE16	NE65	NE92
NE18	NE66	NE98
NE27*	NE69	NE99
NE42	NE70*	

* Only items within the development footprint are to be impacted.



APPENDIX 6 HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEMS

Table 1: Historic heritage items – avoid impacts

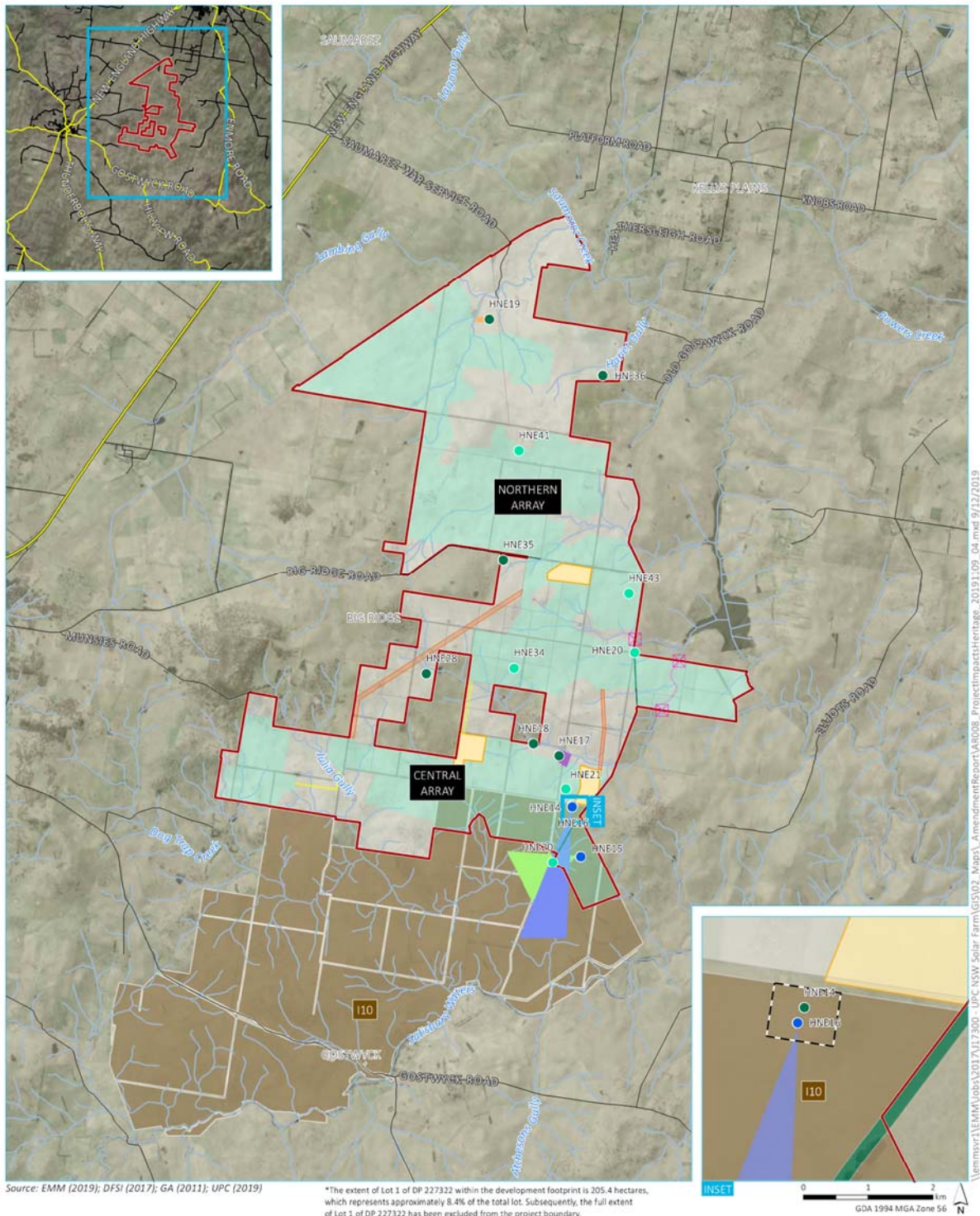
Site		Site	
HNE14	Granite tors	HNE19	Remnant house archaeological site
HNE17	Gostwyck Shepherd's Hut	HNE35	Old Gostwyck platform 3
HNE18	Stockyard	HNE36	Saumarez Hut archaeological site
HNE20	Old Gostwyck Road*	HNE28	Spring Camp house

* Only sections of the road outside the development footprint are to be avoided.

Table 2: Historic heritage items – impacted

Site		Site	
HNE15	View through Gostwyck Station	HNE34	Former stockyards
HNE16	View from granite tors	HNE41	Rows of poplars
HNE21	Former fence line	HNE43	Former fence line
HNE20	Old Gostwyck Road *		

* Only sections of the road within the development footprint are to be impacted.



KEY

- Project boundary *
- Main road
- Local road
- Watercourse/drainage line
- Development footprint
 - Solar array
 - Potential electrical cabling
 - Potential site access/electrical cabling
 - Potential substation/BESS footprint
- Indicative location of security fencing across third order watercourses

- Uralla LEP listing - item
- Indicative site boundaries
 - HNE15
 - HNE16
 - HNE17
 - HNE19
 - HNE20

- Impact type
 - None
 - Physical
 - Visual
- Avoidance buffer (HNE14)

Note: HNE37 is not shown as a point as it is representative of the cultural landscape

Project impacts to identified heritage values

New England Solar Farm
Amendment report
Figure 5.3



APPENDIX 7

INCIDENT NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

WRITTEN INCIDENT NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. A written incident notification addressing the requirements set out below must be submitted to the Planning Secretary via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. Notification is required to be given under this condition even if the Applicant fails to give the notification required under condition 7 of Schedule 4 or, having given such notification, subsequently forms the view that an incident has not occurred.
2. Written notification of an incident must:
 - a. identify the development and application number;
 - b. provide details of the incident (date, time, location, a brief description of what occurred and why it is classified as an incident);
 - c. identify how the incident was detected;
 - d. identify when the applicant became aware of the incident;
 - e. identify any actual or potential non-compliance with conditions of consent;
 - f. describe what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident;
 - g. identify further action(s) that will be taken in relation to the incident; and
 - h. identify a project contact for further communication regarding the incident.
3. Within 30 days of the date on which the incident occurred or as otherwise agreed to by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must provide the Planning Secretary and any relevant public authorities (as determined by the Planning Secretary) with a detailed report on the incident addressing all requirements below, and such further reports as may be requested.
4. The Incident Report must include:
 - a. a summary of the incident;
 - b. outcomes of an incident investigation, including identification of the cause of the incident;
 - c. details of the corrective and preventative actions that have been, or will be, implemented to address the incident and prevent recurrence; and
 - d. details of any communication with other stakeholders regarding the incident.

Appendix E Monitoring Schedule

GLC monitoring schedule

Date: 30 June 2022

Aspect	GLC Reference	Monitoring Checklist
Air quality	Daily Environmental Checklist	Dust is being managed appropriately (e.g. water carts). Notify Site Manager if water carts are required in work area.
Ecology	Daily Environmental Checklist	No fauna injury or fatalities identified. Report injured fauna to HSE.
Ecology	Daily Environmental Checklist	Speed limits (40 km/hr) are signposted at relevant locations on site, and vehicles are being used safely to avoid fauna strike.
Ecology	Daily Environmental Checklist	Vehicles entering work areas have weed and seed declarations. Vehicles are being washed down to ensure soils and seed material is not transferred between work areas and off site.
Ecology	Daily Environmental Checklist	No evidence of feral species. Report feral animals to HSE.
Ecology	Monthly Environmental Checklist	High disturbance activities are remaining within approved work areas (i.e. consistent with Location EWMS).
Ecology	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Perimeter fence is undamaged and work activities are maintaining appropriate offset distance.
Ecology	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Fencing, bunting and/or flagging has appropriate signage (e.g. 'No Go Zone' or 'Environmental Protection Area').
Ecology	Monthly Environmental Checklist	A suitably qualified fauna handler is present for any hollow-bearing tree (marked with 'H') removal. Removal of hollow-bearing trees is not occurring during Spring.
Ecology	Monthly Environmental Checklist	No evidence of new weed outbreaks. Existing weeds are being managed as far as practicable.
Ecology	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Clearing activities are only occurring within the perimeter fence.
Ecology	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Logs that can be salvaged have been identified for relocation at appropriate ecological density and locations. Previously identified logs have been relocated.
Ecology	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Areas planned for clearing have been inspected by an ecologist (within 14 days of clearing). Trees identified as habitat have been marked with 'H'.
Ecology	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Trees and woodland near work areas that can be retained have been excluded appropriately (e.g. fencing, flagging, staking).
Erosion and Sediment Control	Daily Environmental Checklist	No evidence of scour or rill. Report scours greater than 50 mm.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Daily Environmental Checklist	Drainage lines are free of sediment and chemical plumes.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Daily Environmental Checklist	If runoff occurred in the last 24 hours, all ESC measures and site discharge points must be checked. N/A if no runoff.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Daily Environmental Checklist	If runoff is predicted in the next 24 hours, all ESC measures and site discharge points must be checked. N/A if no runoff predicted.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Daily Environmental Checklist	If runoff occurred in the last 24 hours, all ESC measures and site discharge points must be checked. N/A if no runoff
Erosion and Sediment Control	Daily Environmental Checklist	Sediment basins are empty. If not, flocculate and drain sediment-laden dams if required.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Daily Environmental Checklist	Sediment fences and other controls are in place and undamaged.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	ESC measures within the work area are consistent with the ESCP. The measures appear appropriate for the type and magnitude of work.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	ESC measures within the work area are consistent with the ESCP. The measures appear appropriate for the type and magnitude of work.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Drainage and sediment controls have been installed prior to ground disturbance.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Work areas and sediment traps are clear of excessive sediment deposition.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Up-slope "clean" water is being appropriately diverted around (or through) work areas. "Clean" water is not mixing with "dirty" water from disturbed areas.

GLC monitoring schedule

Date: 30 June 2022

Aspect	GLC Reference	Monitoring Checklist
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Drainage lines are free of soil scour and sediment deposition.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Earth batters are free of rill erosion.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	All sediment fences are free from damage.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Sediment-laden stormwater is not simply flowing "around" sediment fences or other sediment traps.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	The settled sediment layer within a sediment basin is clearly visible through the supernatant prior to discharge such water. (Is the water within the basin clear enough that you can see the settled layer of sediment on the bottom of the basin)
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Work areas are adequately prepared for imminent storms.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Stockpiles are located within work areas and upslope of sediment control measures.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Long-term soil stockpiles are being protected from wind, rain and stormwater flow with appropriate drainage and erosion controls (e.g. cover crop).
Fire and Emergency	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Access and egress to site and work areas are clear and safe. Gates are in good condition and locks have been provided to RFS and FRNSW if required.
Fire and Emergency	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Standing fuel load (grass, weeds and timber) has been minimised as far as practicable through the use of slashing or stocking.
Fire and Emergency	Monthly Environmental Checklist	No evidence of fires in or near work areas.
Fire and Emergency	Monthly Environmental Checklist	The condition of access roads and tracks are suitable for emergency vehicle passage.
Fire and Emergency	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Flammable liquids are stored away from buildings or in approved storage compounds. Hazardous substance (petrol, diesel, LPG) is stored in an inorganic hard stand area.
General	Daily Environmental Checklist	Local climate conditions (weather, rain, fire ratings) were communicated in morning prestart. Workers are adhering to any additional requirements.
General	Daily Environmental Checklist	Workers are aware of EWMS and location-EWMS for each activity.
General	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Security lights at the site compound and substation are down-facing. Lights at other construction areas are turned off at night.
General	Weekly Environmental Checklist	New workers are being made aware of environmental constraints, and unexpected finds procedures, during inductions and toolboxes.
Heritage	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Fencing, bunting, and/or flagging around heritage sites is adequately protecting all heritage items.
Heritage	Monthly Environmental Checklist	No evidence of unexpected heritage finds in work area. Trigger unexpected finds protocol if required.
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Areas to be rehabilitated have adequate topsoil and cover crop (if required) to allow for revegetation.
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Current rehabilitation areas demonstrate adequate soil stabilisation (i.e. no signs of erosion, and sediment downhill of rehabilitation).
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Vegetation is re-establishing on rehabilitation areas (note: target is 70% cover by 6 months).
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Bare ground patches within native grassland are less than 20 m ² . Report large patches of bare ground outside work areas to HSE.
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Disturbed areas are being rehabilitated as soon as practical following the completion of work activities.
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Topsoil and subsoil are being stockpiled separately to assist with rehabilitation activities.

GLC monitoring schedule

Date: 30 June 2022

Aspect	GLC Reference	Monitoring Checklist
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Shallow ripping is being conducted on disturbed areas if required for rehab (50 to 100 mm in depth).
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Weekly Environmental Checklist	If required, seed broadcasting is being undertaken as part of rehabilitation activities. Local provenance seeds are recommended, with a cover crop if immediate stabilisation is required.
Land Management and Rehabilitation	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Erosion and sediment control measures are being retained on rehabilitated areas until vegetation has been re-established.
Noise	Daily Environmental Checklist	No evidence of equipment left to idle for prolonged periods. Instruct workers to turn off equipment if not in use (where possible).
Noise	Daily Environmental Checklist	Workers are minimising noise as far as practicable (no unnecessary shouting, loud stereos/radios etc)
Noise	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Noise monitoring is being undertaken.
Noise	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Critical equipment on site have Equipment Noise Certificates and have been checked for noise levels.
Noise	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Noise management measures appear appropriate and excessive noise is minimised as far as practicable.
Waste	Daily Environmental Checklist	Work area is free of litter, and bins are available for waste.
Waste	Monthly Environmental Checklist	The Waste Management Register is being actively maintained.
Waste	Monthly Environmental Checklist	The Waste Management Register is being actively maintained by GLC.
Waste	Monthly Environmental Checklist	The Waste Management Register is being actively maintained by GLC.
Waste	Monthly Environmental Checklist	Monthly waste service provider report has been compiled and provided monthly to UPC.
Waste	Weekly Environmental Checklist	No areas of unexpected waste (e.g. contamination, asbestos, illegal dumping) have been identified. Temporarily cease work and cordon off any relevant areas of waste.
Waste	Weekly Environmental Checklist	Waste areas are consistent with documented locations on Location EWMS.

**local people
global experience**

SMEC is recognised for providing technical excellence and consultancy expertise in urban, infrastructure and management advisory. From concept to completion, our core service offering covers the life-cycle of a project and maximises value to our clients and communities. We align global expertise with local knowledge and state-of-the-art processes and systems to deliver innovative solutions to a range of industry sectors.