



Diana Mitchell
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Via email: diana.mitchell@lightsourcebp.com

02/02/2022

Dear Ms Mitchell

**West Wyalong Solar (SSD-9504)
Vegetation buffer commencement**

I refer to your request dated 18 January 2022 seeking the Planning Secretary's approval to delay the requirement to plant the vegetation buffer prior to commencing operation, in accordance with condition 8 of Schedule 3 of the Development Consent for the West Wyalong Solar Farm.

The Department notes that Lightsource bp:

- considers that recent localised flooding has impacted the ability to commence landscaping works, that expected plant growth during the winter period would be minimal and that winter frosts could cause high plant losses;
- has indicated that the project would commence operations in mid-2022, meaning that there would be up to a 5 month delay in planting to November 2022;
- has committed to undertaking the planting works for the vegetation buffer in late Spring (mid-Oct and November 2022) resulting in a better outcome for the vegetation buffer.

Accordingly, the Secretary has granted an extension of time to plant the vegetation buffer until 30 November 2022 subject to compliance with condition 8 and condition 9 of Schedule 3 of the Development Consent.

Lightsource bp should ensure that the Landscaping Plan for the project is consistent with this approach.

In addition, Lightsource bp should ensure it has sourced appropriate species that are endemic to the area in preparation for planting prior to 30 November 2022, and that would ensure the vegetation buffer is established within 3 years of commencing operations.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Natasha Homsey on (02) 8275 1264 or at natasha.homsey@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Brewer
Director
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Secretary