

Our ref: West Wyalong Solar Farm (SSD-9504-PA-22)

Ms Diana Mitchell
Lightsource bp
Principal Environmental Planner
Level 29, 420 George Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
DATEWILLBEINSERTEDHERE

Subject: Commencement of Vegetation Buffer Planting

Dear Ms Mitchell

I refer to your request dated 27 May 2022, and subsequent letter dated 5 July 2022, seeking the Planning Secretary's approval to defer the planting of the vegetation buffer for the West Wyalong Solar Farm from the commencement of operations in November 2022, until Autumn 2023.

The Department notes that:

- deferral of planting would avoid plant exposure to summer heat, whilst allowing plants to grow to greater maturity in a controlled environment off site, prior to being established on the site before winter frosts;
- Lightsource bp has committed to commence landscape planting in Autumn 2023 (April-May), and has consulted with an arborist who confirmed the vegetation buffer can still be established within 3 years of the commencement of operations.

Accordingly, under condition 8 of Schedule 3 of the development consent, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the deferral of landscape planting until April-May 2023, noting the vegetation buffer will still be established within 3 years of commencement of operations.

If you have any questions, please contact Kurtis Wathen on 02 8289 6981 or via email at kurtis.wathen@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,



Iwan Davies
A/Director
Energy Assessments