



# NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



The Secretary  
NSW Planning & Environment  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

Your Ref: SSD 9549  
Our Ref: D18/5640  
DA20200604001960-Original-1

**ATTENTION:** Natasha Homsey

10 June 2020

**Agency Comment: Jindera Solar Farm (SSD 9549) Environmental Impact Statement and Response to Submissions; Urana Road Jindera (Greater Hume LGA)**

Dear Ms Homsey

I refer to NSW Planning and Environment correspondence dated 30 March 2020 seeking comment from the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) regarding bush fire protection requirements for the above State Significant Development application.

The NSW RFS has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Response to Submissions (RTS) documents. The proposal is for the development of a 150 Megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) solar farm.

The EIS states:

*Key development and infrastructure components would include:*

- *Single axis tracker photovoltaic (PV) solar panels, mounted on steel frames at about 3 m above ground level at maximum tilt.*
- *Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with maximum capacity of 30MW/60MWh.*
- *Electrical cables and conduits.*
- *Inverter stations which have an aggregate capacity of approximately 155 MVA.*
- *Weather station.*
- *On-site high voltage substation.*
- *Control room and storage facility.*
- *Site office, staff amenities, parking area and perimeter fencing, and CCTV.*
- *Overhead transmission line infrastructure on poles connecting the project's on-site high voltage substation to the existing TransGrid Jindera 330/132kV substation.*
- *Internal access tracks.*
- *Access road entrances from public roads.*
- *Upgrade to existing roads.*

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- *On-site vegetative screening.*
- *Other associated ancillary infrastructure.*

The subject land is not mapped bush fire prone land by Greater Hume Shire Council. However, it is noted that the land contains significant grassland vegetation formations. Further, the NSW RFS is the primary response agency for all structural fires on the land.

The NSW RFS recommends the following conditions be included in any approvals granted:

1. A Fire Management Plan (FMP) shall be prepared in consultation with NSW RFS Southern Border Fire Control Centre. The FMP shall include:
  - 24 hour emergency contact details including alternative telephone contact;
  - Site infrastructure plan;
  - Fire fighting water supply plan;
  - Site access and internal road plan;
  - Construction of Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and their continued maintenance;
  - Location of hazards (Physical, Chemical and Electrical) that will impact on fire fighting operations and procedures to manage identified hazards during fire fighting operations;
  - Such additional matters as required by the NSW RFS District Office (FMP review and updates).
2. The entire solar array development footprint to be managed as an Asset Protection Zone as outlined within section 4.1.3 and Appendix 5 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006' and the NSW Rural Fire Service's document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones'.
3. A 20,000 litre water supply (tank) fitted with a 65mm storz fitting shall be located adjoining the internal property access road within the required APZ.
4. To allow for emergency service personnel to undertake property protection activities, a 10 metre defensible space (APZ) that permits unobstructed vehicle access is to be provided around the perimeter of each of the solar array development sites including associated infrastructure.

For any queries regarding this correspondence please contact Alan Bawden on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours Sincerely



Martha Dotter

**Acting Team Leader – Development Assessment and Planning**

*The RFS has made getting information easier. For general information on 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection, 2006', visit the RFS web page at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au) and search under 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection, 2006'.*