

Hunter New England Local Health District

Hunter New England Population Health

Direct Contact Details

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25 November 2019

Tatsiana Bandaruk
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Sydney GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Tatsiana.Bandaruk@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Tatsiana

RE: Bonshaw Solar Farm (SSD-9438) EXHIBITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

I refer to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) exhibited on the NSW Planning, Industry and Environment website in relation to the development of a 200 MW solar farm, energy storage facility and associated infrastructure.

The Project is to be located approximately 16 kilometres (km) South of Bonshaw and 66 km north of Inverell. It is expected have up to 190 people on site for 6 months during construction and 10 full time equivalent (FTE) persons during operations after construction.

Water Management

It is noted that the nearest reticulated water supply is located at Bonshaw, and there is no mention of potable water onsite during construction or operations. There is mention that water management measures including alternative sources of water that will be implemented for the Project. There is however no stipulation about the source of potable water onsite during construction or operations for staff.

This office would suggest that should there not be a connection to a potable water supply then the applicant must demonstrate that the drinking water supplied to the premises will consistently meet the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2011* and any subsequent amendments of the Guidelines." This includes "an appropriate drinking water quality assurance program, in compliance with NSW Health requirements and the *Public Health Act 2010* and the *Public Health Regulation 2012* is to be provided."

The selected option for the provision of a private potable water supply is likely to require a quality assurance program in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Health Act 2010*. The proponent is encouraged to contact Hunter New England Local Health District with respect to developing a quality assurance program.

Additional information can also be accessed through the NSW Health website via the following link:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/water/Pages/private-supplies.aspx>

Water carters providing drinking water for human consumption should take water from a supply that meets the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (potable water supplies). Appropriate sources include town drinking water supplies, or directly from a bulk water supplier at the point of water treatment.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Glenn Pearce, Senior Environmental Health Officer on 6764 8000.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'David Durrheim', written in a cursive style.

Dr David Durrheim
Director - Health Protection
Hunter New England Population Health