



Department of Primary Industries

OUT12/31673

= 7 DEC 2012

Ms Kate Masters
Infrastructure Projects
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Kate.Masters@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Masters,

Broken Hill Solar Plant (MP10_0202) Response to exhibition of Environmental Assessment

I refer to your letter of 22 October 2012 requesting advice from the Department of Primary Industries in respect to the above matter.

Comment by Crown Lands

Crown Lands advise as follows:

- (i) Although the Environmental Assessment outlines the decommissioning processes that will be followed once the project reaches the end of its operational lifespan (approximately 30 years) (pages 4-15 in Section 4.5, and pages 5-28 in Section 5.3.3), it does not outline the costs and timeframes associated with the decommissioning processes.
- (ii) The Environmental Assessment states that the site would be re-vegetated as necessary to return it to its original state, as far as practicable. Crown Lands will require the site to be revegetated with locally endemic native vegetation species.
- (iii) Other matters previously raised by Crown Lands in the Department's letter of 16 July 2012 in relation to the adequacy of the draft Environmental Assessment have been addressed.

For further information please contact Reuben Butler, Natural Resource Management Project Officer (Dubbo office) on 6883 5416 or at: reuben.butler@lands.nsw.gov.au.

Comment by NSW Office of Water

The NSW Office of Water advise as follows:

- (i) The project proposes installation of infrastructure for the solar panels over an area conveying flows to tributaries of Stirling Vale Creek. Although the Environmental Assessment indicates no modifications to watercourses and no construction within 40m of a watercourse is to occur, Figure 11-2 shows a significant number of flow paths through the site. The Office of Water requests clarification of construction in relation to watercourses and appropriate management of sediment and erosion control during construction and operational stages.

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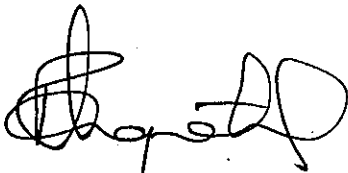
Tel: 02 8289 3999 Fax: 02 9286 3208 www.dpi.nsw.gov.au ABN: 72 189 919 072

- (ii) The Office of Water recommends works within 40m of a watercourse to be carried out in accordance with the *Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (July 2012)*.
- (iii) Any approval of the application should be subject to the following condition:

The proponent is to prepare a Construction Environment Management Plan and Operation Environment Management Plan in consultation with and to the satisfaction of the NSW Office of Water prior to commencement of relevant activities.

For further information please contact Tim Baker, A/Manager Major Projects, Mines and Assessment (Dubbo office) on 6841 7403 or at: Tim.Baker@water.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Anquetil', with a stylized, cursive script.

Phil Anquetil
Executive Director Business Services