

3 April 2018

Tim Stuckey
Environmental Assessment Officer – Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Emailed: tim.stuckey@planning.nsw.gov.au

Your Reference: SSD 8872
Our Reference: OUT18/11893

Dear Mr Stuckey,

Re: Sandigo Solar Farm Project – SSD 8872 – Environmental Impact Statement

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Sandigo Solar Farm Project (SSD 8872). This is a response from the NSW Department of Planning & Environment (DPE) – Division of Resources & Geoscience (DRG), Geological Survey of New South Wales (GSNSW).

GSNSW specific requirements for the Sandigo Solar Farm (SSD8872) required the proponent to include in the EIS a mining and exploration title and application search referencing DRGs MinView database. Further, Wright's Pit was to be identified on a map and in text to address land use compatibility considerations in relation to the Project with the SEARs requiring consultation with the quarry operator, Narrandera Shire Council.

The proponent has addressed mining, exploration and minerals in the EIS, and has reviewed DRGs online MinView database, identifying that there are no mining or exploration titles or applications indicated over or in the vicinity of the Project site (Refer to page 98 of the EIS).

GSNSW note the substantial reduction in the Project boundary since the Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) including the complete removal of the proposed "Glen Moria" site which was located approximately 1 kilometre (km) south of Wright's Pit. GSNSW acknowledge the proponent has identified in text and on a map mineral occurrences and operating extractive industries within the vicinity of the Project and consulted with Narrandera Shire Council in relation to potential land use compatibility considerations, including Wright's Pit which is now located 6 km from the Project area (Refer to page 98 and Figure 8.8 of EIS).

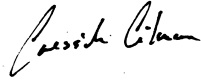
GSNSW notes that an assessment of current available data confirms that at this stage of the Project, there are no current mineral, coal or petroleum titles or applications, or extractive industries in the vicinity of the project site. Accordingly, GSNSW are satisfied the proponent has addressed these specific requirements.

GSNSW request to be consulted in relation to the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas (both on and off site) or any supplementary biodiversity measures to ensure

there are no consequent reduction in access to prospective land for mineral exploration, or potential for sterilisation of mineral or extractive resources.

Queries regarding the above information, and future requests for advice in relation to this matter, should be directed to the GSNSW Land Use team at landuse.minerals@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cressida Gilmore', written in a cursive style.

Cressida Gilmore
Manager - Land Use