

26 July 2018

Iwan Davies Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Resource and Energy Assessments - Planning Services Department of Planning & Environment GPO BOX 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

> Your Ref: SSD 9039 Our Ref: DOC18/503542

Emailed: iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Davies

Re: Mulwala Solar Farm (SSD 9039) - EIS Exhibition

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Mulwala Solar Farm (SSD 9039). This is a response from the Department of Planning & Environment – Division of Resources & Geoscience, Geological Survey of New South Wales (GSNSW).

The EIS has addressed all GSNSW requirements regarding the assessment of land use compatibility with operating mines, extractive industries (quarries), mineral, coal or petroleum resources and exploration activities. The Division notes that according to departmental databases, there are no current mineral, coal or petroleum titles or operating mines over the site or adjacent lands and has no resource sterilisation concerns regarding the Project at this stage. It should be noted that reference to the sites identified in Table 25 relate to quarry operations that have ceased production, rather than exploration titles under the *Mining Act* 1992.

GSNSW note Mulwala Solar Farm propose to acquit the liability of 30.75 credits by making a lump sum payment of equivalent value to the Biodiversity Conservation Trust Fund or via purchasing credits from the public register (subject to the determination conditions of the EIS).

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@geoscience.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Preside Cilam

Cressida Gilmore

Manager - Land Use