



## NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



The Secretary  
Department of Planning & Environment  
PO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Your reference: SSD 8208  
Our reference: D17/1416  
DA17051007223 AB

Attention: Elle Donnelley

2 June 2017

Dear Ms Donnelley,

**Agency Comment: Coleambally Solar Farm (SSD 8208); Lots 78, 81, 82, 83 DP 750896, Part of Lots 100 and 101 DP 750896, Lot 1 DP 821577, Lot 3 DP 1055725 - Kook Road Coleambally**

I refer to NSW Planning and Environment correspondence dated 8 May 2017 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 received and reviewed the Environmental Assessment and understands the development proposal is for a *"proposed 150 Megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) solar farm"* which includes:

- Solar arrays, PV boxes and skids.
- Potential battery storage.
- Delivery station and solar sub-station.
- Associated above and/or underground cabling.
- Underground connection to TransGrid substation and extension to substation.
- Ancillary facilities.
- New access point from Ercildoune Road and associated road upgrades.
- Possible new access point from Kook Road for solar substation maintenance purposes only.
- Construction of bridges across Tubbo irrigation channel and the central irrigation channel.
- Construction of internal gravel access tracks.
- Possible irrigation drainage channel relocation, subject to final design.
- Subdivision of land.
- Landscaping.

While the subject site is not mapped bush fire prone by Murrumbidgee Shire Council, the subject land has a significant potential to carry grass fires. Further NSW RFS is the primary response agency for fighting structural fires within the site.

**Postal address**

NSW Rural Fire Service  
Records Management  
Locked Bag 17  
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

**Street address**

NSW Rural Fire Service  
Coffs Harbour Customer Service  
Centre  
Suite 1, 129 West High Street  
COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450

T (02) 6691 0400  
F (02) 6691 0499  
[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)  
Email: [csc@rfs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:csc@rfs.nsw.gov.au)



As such, the NSW RFS recommends the following conditions be attached to any consent granted:

1. A Fire Management Plan (FMP) shall be prepared in consultation with NSW RFS Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) 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 20 metre defensible space (APZ) that permits unobstructed vehicle access is to be provided around the perimeter of the solar array development site.

For any enquiries regarding this correspondence, please contact Alan Bawden on 6691 0400.

Yours sincerely



**Ivan Perkins**  
**Acting Manager – Planning and Environmental Services North**

*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'.*