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Ms Elle Donnelley A/Senior Planner, Resource Assessments Department of Planning & Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001 Sent by e-mail to: elle.donnelley@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Donnelley

RE: SSD 8208 Coleambally Solar Farm - Heritage trees – Measures for Conservation

Reference is made to your email received on 9 June 2017 requesting comment from the Heritage Division of OEH (on behalf of the Heritage Council of NSW) for the above SSD proposal. It is noted that the OEH South West Region recommended referral of this proposal to the Heritage Division as three European Marked Trees were found during field survey of the project area.

The three marked trees have been described and recorded in the report titled 'Environmental Impact Statement Coleambally Solar Farm' prepared by ngh Environmental dated April 2017. documents provided in the links with your email have been reviewed. That report advises that the three European Marked Trees (survey markers) were the only heritage items within the project area and that all other identified European heritage items are more than 10 Kilometres away from the Solar Farm proposal area.

Section 7.9.3 of the abovementioned report advises that the three European marker trees identified within the proposal area are unlikely to be affected by the construction, operation or decommissioning phases of the proposed solar farm. These areas would be avoided and no vegetation is proposed to be removed near these trees.

It is considered that appropriate mitigation measures for the three trees would include Archival Recording and avoidance by future works. An unexpected finds protocol is also recommended to be included in any Conditions of Approval for the Solar Farm proposal to cover the situation of any historical archaeological 'relics' being discovered in the project area.

If you have any questions arising from this letter, please contact Siobhan Lavelle, Senior Team Leader, Archaeological Heritage at the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage on telephone (02) 9873 8546 or by e-mail: siobhan.lavelle@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

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Rajeev Maini Acting Manager, Conservation Heritage Division Office of Environment & Heritage <u>As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW</u> 23 June 2017