

Diana Charteris  
Senior Planning Officer  
Resource Assessments & Planning Services  
Department of Planning & Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Diana.charteris@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Diana

**Beryl Solar Farm (SSD 8183) - Exhibition**

I refer to your email dated 21 April 2017 inviting the Division of Resources & Geoscience (DRG) to provide comments on the Beryl Solar Farm (SSD 8183) - Exhibition.

DRG has reviewed and assessed the adequacy of information in relation to the Beryl Solar Farm (SSD 8183) - Exhibition and provides the following advice.

DRG notes that the requirements outlined in previous correspondence (our ref: OUT17/2526) in relation to the request for SEARs have not been adequately addressed.

The general area including the Beryl Solar Farm site contains a number of gold and diamond occurrences and remains prospective for both commodities. Furthermore, Beryl Quarry (operated by Boral) is an important regional source of hard rock aggregate and is located approximately 1km south of the site.

The Proponent correctly notes in Section 4.3.10 of the EIS that the site is the subject of Exploration Licence (EL) No. 8160. However the Proponent incorrectly states that the tenement has expired. Renewal of EL8160 is currently being sought by Bowdens Silver Pty Ltd.

Under Section 117 of the Mining Act 1992, EL8160 is in force until the renewal application is determined. Additionally, a small portion of the western part of the project site is also subject to a current mineral tenement - EL8405 held by Silver Mines Limited.

The Proponent indicates in Section 4.3.10, Section 5.1.3 and Section 5.4 of the EIS the Proponent notes that consultation with these stakeholders has occurred.

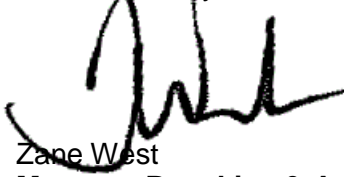
The Proponent however has not provided any evidence of direct consultation (as requested by DRG) with Boral Resources (Country) Pty Ltd operators of Beryl Quarry and Bowdens Silver Pty Ltd holders of EL8160. Specifically, DRG requires evidence of notification (to these stakeholders) of the solar farm project including a map showing the extent of the site (including electricity transmission infrastructure) in relation to the exploration licence boundaries and to the quarry operations.

Importantly, GSNSW requires evidence that a response has been received by the Proponent from the title holder and quarry operator.

Feedback from the community consultation (Section 5.4.4 of the EIS) indicates concerns regarding land conflict with the site have been raised DRG requests that the Proponent details how they intend to address the concerns of these stakeholders.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Adam Banister, Acting Senior Project Officer, Royalty & Advisory Services on 4931 6439.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zane West', written over a horizontal line.

Zane West

**Manager Royalties & Advisory Services**

25 May 2017