

OUT17/29624

Anthony Ko
Planning Officer
Resource Assessments - Planning Services Division
Department of Planning & Environment
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Dear Anthony

Hillston Solar Project (SSD 7955) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) - Review

I refer to your email dated 14 July 2017 inviting the Division of Resources & Geoscience (the Division) to provide comments on the Hillston Solar Project (SSD 7955) EIS (the Project) submitted by Overland Sun Farming Pty Ltd (the Proponent).

The Division has reviewed the adequacy of information supplied relation to the abovementioned Project and provides the following advice:

The Division notes that the Proponent has addressed requirements to consider mining (including quarrying), exploration activity and mineral resources in the Project area and has correctly noted that there are no current mineral or petroleum titles covering or adjacent to the site. The Division notes that the Project area does not contain any identified mineral or energy resources of significance and there is no active exploration in the vicinity.

The 85 megawatt (MW) solar farm has an estimated capital investment value of approximately \$150 million and would support up to 100 jobs during the peak construction period.

The Division believes that the Project is aligned with Government policy namely the State's NSW Renewable Energy Action Plan to increase renewable energy generation, jobs and investment in the State. Increasing solar energy in NSW will assist the Government in meeting its commitment to support the national Renewable Energy Target of 33,000 gigawatt hours (GWh) by 2020.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact: Adam Banister, Acting Senior Advisory Officer - Royalties & Advisory Services on (02) 4931 6439.

Yours sincerely

Manager Royalties & Advisory Services

26 July 2017