

Our reference : DOC16/494765-04
Contact: Ramya Gowda, epa.farwest@epa.nsw.gov.au
Date: 10 October 2016

The Director
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
PO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Attention: Ms Melanie Prior

Dear Mr McManus,

I refer to the email dated 28 September 2016 submitted by NSW Department of Planning and Environment to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in relation to proposed Goonumbra Solar Farm Project (SSD 7618).

With reference to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the EPA notes that Renewable Energy Developments Pty Ltd is proposing to construct a 70MW solar farm in Goonumbra in Parkes Shire.

The EPA has determined that the proposed development is not a Scheduled Activity for the purposes of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and will therefore not require an Environment Protection licence.

The EPA recommends that the assessment for the proposal should consider the following general matters.

- **Water quality impacts** - identification of appropriate pollution control systems to protect surface and ground water resources such as sediment and erosion controls during construction and operational stages and inclusion of permanent sediment and erosion and stormwater controls where required.
- **Noise** – identify potential impacts and mitigation strategies to be incorporated during the construction phase to minimise noise and comply with NSW policies and legislation on noise control, with reference to the *Interim Construction Noise Guidelines*.
- **Dust** – identify impacts from dust during the construction phase and identified mitigative measures.
- **Storage of chemicals/ fuels** - ensure adequate control measures are in place for storages to reduce risk of spills contaminating waterways and land.
- **Waste management** – options and strategies for waste minimisation, reuse and recycling should be assessed as appropriate.

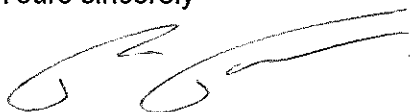
It is recommended that in achieving a high standard of sediment and erosion controls and general site management the proponent, or any contractor engaged by the proponent,

develop and implement the proposal in accordance with relevant guidelines such as the EPA endorsed publication "*Soils and Construction, Volume 1, 4th Edition*," March 2004 by Landcom.

It should be noted that this information are guidelines only and it is up to the proponent (and later the consent/determining authority after appropriate consultation) to determine the detail and comprehensiveness of the surveys and level of assessment required to form legally defensible conclusions regarding the impact of the proposal. The scale and intensity of the proposed development should dictate the level of investigation. It is important that all conclusions are supported by adequate data.

Should you have any further enquiries regarding this matter please contact Ramya Gowda at the Dubbo Office of the EPA by telephoning (02) 6883 5306.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bradley Tanswell', with a stylized, flowing script.

BRADLEY TANSWELL
Acting Head Far West Operations
Environment Protection Authority