

15 November 2016

SF2016/070928; WST16/00079/02

The Manager
NSW Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Ms Melanie Prior

Dear Ms Prior

**SSD7618: Lots 1 & 2 DP 602329, Lot 409 DP 750152, Lot 5 DP 854193 and Lot 1 DP 877903;
Pat Meredith Drive, Parkes; Goonumbla Solar Farm**

Thank you for your email of 28 September 2016 referring the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Goonumbla Solar Farm to Roads and Maritime Services for comment.

The Environmental Impact Study has been reviewed and Roads and Maritime notes the following:

- The proposal is for a 70 megawatt electricity generation facility to be known as the 'Goonumbla Solar Farm'.
- The subject land is located 10 kilometres west of Parkes. The subject land has frontage to Henry Parkes Way (MR61) and Pat Meredith Drive. All vehicular access to the site from Henry Parkes Way will be via its intersection with Pat Meredith Drive.
- Construction works are projected to commence in October 2017.
- On 14 June 2016 development consent was granted for the construction and operation of a 65 megawatt electricity generating facility on land adjoining the subject site. This project is known as the 'Parkes Solar Farm'. Vehicular access to the Parkes Solar Farm is also via the intersection for Pat Meredith Drive and Henry Parkes Way. Construction of the Parkes Solar Farm is projected to commence in January 2017 and conclude in September 2017.
- No details of construction traffic origin/destination have been provided.
- The applicant believes as the sizes of the proposed Goonumbla and Parkes Solar Farms are similar, and, that the construction of the solar farms are not projected to overlap, no upgrade to the intersection of Pat Meredith Drive and Henry Parkes Way above that required to be completed by the proponents of the Parkes Solar Farm, is required.

Roads and Maritime Services

- To date, the upgrade of the intersection required for the Parkes Solar Farm has not commenced.
- No assessment has been provided of the traffic impacts should the construction of the Parkes Solar Farm be delayed, and construction works for both farms coincide.

Given the construction of the Parkes Solar Farm is not under the control of the applicant, it is necessary to quantify and assess the traffic impacts generated by the proposed development and the cumulative impacts of construction works at both solar farm sites should these works coincide. To quantify and assess the traffic impacts, and to ensure any required road upgrades are completed at an appropriate time, Roads and Maritime recommends the following conditions be included in any consent issued in relation to SSD7618 by the Department of Planning Environment:

- Prior to the commencement of construction works, the intersection of Pat Meredith Drive and Henry Parkes Way is to be upgraded. To confirm the level of intersection works, a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) is to be prepared in consultation with Parkes Shire Council and Roads and Maritime Services. The TMP is to outline measures to manage traffic related issues associated with the delivery and construction of the solar plant and ancillary structures, any construction or excavated materials, machinery and personnel involved in the construction, operation and decommissioning process. The plan is to detail the potential impacts associated with the development, the measures to be implemented and the procedures to monitor and ensure compliance. The plan is to address, but not necessarily be limited to:
 - The origin, number, size, frequency, including peak and daily traffic volumes and destination of vehicles accessing/exiting the site.
 - Loads, weights and lengths of haulage and construction related vehicles and the number of movements of such vehicles.
 - Existing background traffic, peak hour volumes and types and their interaction with projected development related traffic.
 - Cumulative impacts of existing background traffic, and projected traffic generated by the construction of both the Parkes and Goonumbra Solar Farm projects. Details are to be included outlining how a delay in the construction of the adjoining Parkes Solar Farm would affect cumulative traffic impacts during the construction of the Goonumbra Solar Farm project.
 - The management and coordination of construction and staff vehicle movements to the site and measures to limit disruption to other motorists. In particular, details of how the applicant proposes to ensure the projected target of 50% of construction staff are bussed to the site is achieved.
 - Scheduling of haulage vehicle movements to minimise convoy length or platoons.
 - Details of intersection improvement works in accordance with *Austroads Guide to Road Design* and Roads and Maritime supplements.
 - Local climate conditions that may affect road safety for vehicles used during construction, operation and decommissioning of the project (eg fog).

The preparation of the TMP for the project is to involve the appointed transport contractor, Parkes Shire Council and Roads and Maritime Services to determine the final details of haulage, including exact transport routes, road-specific mitigation measures and haulage timing. Road and intersection improvement works are to be approved and completed prior to the commencement of construction of the solar farm.

- The intersection upgrade is located on a state road and the developer will be required to undertake private financing and construction of works on a road in which Roads and Maritime Services has a statutory interest. A formal agreement in the form of a Works Authorisation Deed (WAD) is required between the developer and Roads and Maritime Services prior to works commencing.
- Prior to the commencement of construction work, the proponent is to contact Roads and Maritime's Traffic Operations Coordinator to determine if a Road Occupancy Licence (ROL) is required. In the event that an ROL is required, the proponent is to obtain the ROL prior to works commencing within three (3) metres of the travel lanes in Henry Parkes Way.

It would be appreciated if a copy of the determination for this project could be forwarded to Roads and Maritime at the same time it is sent to the proponent. Should you require further information please contact Andrew McIntyre, Manager Land Use Assessment, on 02 6861 1453.

Yours faithfully



Susie Mackay
Network & Safety Manager
Western