



DOC17/261182
SSD 6785

Ms Elle Donnelly
A/Senior Planner
Department Planning & Environment
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Dear Elle

Gilgandra Solar Farm - Public exhibition

I refer to your email dated 03 April 2017 requesting that the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) provide comments on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Gilgandra Solar Farm Project.

OEH understands that the proposal involves the construction and operation of a commercial scale photovoltaic (PV) plant with a capacity of up to 30 megavolt ampere.

OEH recognises that two vegetation zones within the disturbance footprint of this proposal have a site score of less than 17 and as the impacted Plant Community Types (PCTs) are not a threatened ecological community no further assessment is required under the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA). The proposal has been located and designed to avoid clearing of native vegetation in the third vegetation zone (0.6 hectares) so a biodiversity offset is not required and no further assessment is required under the FBA. OEH also notes the avoidance measures of the two aboriginal cultural sites located within the development area.

OEH has no further specific comments to make on the proposed project at this stage. Please note that if subsequent information indicates that these areas within the OEH's responsibility require further investigation, OEH may provide future input.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact David Geering on 02 6883 5335 or email david.geering@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

PETER CHRISTIE
Director North West
Regional Operations Division

11 May 2017

Contact officer: DAVID GEERING
02 6883 5335