

17 May 2018

Meghna D'Souza
Resource and Energy Assessments – Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Emailed: meghna.dsouza@planning.nsw.gov.au

Your Reference: SSD 8853
Our Reference: OUT18/7029

Dear Ms D'Souza

Re: Bomen Solar Farm Project – SSD 8835 – Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared by GHD Pty Ltd and dated 10 April 2018 on behalf of the proponent Renew Estate Pty Ltd for the Bomen Solar Farm Project (SSD 8853). This is a response from the NSW Department of Planning & Environment – Division of Resources & Geoscience (DRG), Geological Survey of New South Wales (GSNSW).

GSNSW specific requirements for the Bomen Solar Farm Project (SSD 8835) required the proponent to include on the EIS a mining and exploration title and application search referencing DRG's MinView database with results to be shown on a map (s). Further, identify any operating mines, extractive industries, mineral or petroleum resources and exploration activities on the site or adjacent lands. The Division requested to be consulted in relation to any proposed biodiversity offsets or supplementary biodiversity measures.

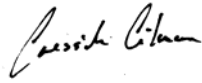
GSNSW reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project and acknowledges the proponent has undertaken a search of DRG's MinView database and confirmed that there are no current mining, coal or petroleum titles over or in the vicinity of the subject site (see page 133 of EIS) with search results shown on a map (see *Appendix I - Database Searches* of the EIS).

GSNSW notes that an assessment of currently available data confirms that at this stage of the Project, there are no current mineral, coal or petroleum titles or application, or extractive industries in the vicinity of the project site. Accordingly, GSNSW are satisfied the proponent has addressed these specific requirements.

GSNSW has reviewed the EIS with respect to biodiversity offset considerations and any supplementary biodiversity offset measures and note that the proposal site is coincidental with the Wagga Wagga Biodiversity Conservation Area with the EIS stating no biodiversity offsets measures will be proposed for the Project provided it is undertaken in accordance with the *Wagga Wagga Local Environmental Plan 2010* (Wagga Wagga LEP 2010). Should this change, GSNSW request to be consulted in relation to any biodiversity offset considerations and any supplementary biodiversity offset measures proposed.

Queries regarding the above information, and future requests for advice in relation to this matter, should be directed to the GSNSW Land Use team at landuse.minerals@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cressida Gilmore', written in a cursive style.

Cressida Gilmore
Manager - Land Use