



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



The Secretary
NSW Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Your Ref: SSD 8835
Our Ref: D17/3986
DA18042012757 AB

ATTENTION: Maghna D'souza

15 May 2018

Dear Ms D'souza

Agency Comment:- Environmental Impact Statement - Bomen Solar Farm; Trahairs Road Bomen (Wagga Wagga LGA)

I refer to your correspondence dated 19 April 2018 seeking NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) advice and recommended conditions for the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

The SSD application is for 120MW Solar Farm consisting of the following components:

- *Approximately 400,000 photovoltaic solar modules;*
- *Approximately 4,500 trackers comprising single-axis tracking framing systems mounted on steel piles;*
- *Maximum 44 containerised power conversion stations containing electrical switchgear, inverters and medium voltage transformers;*
- *new on-site electrical switchyard and substation;*
- *connection into the National Electricity Market (NEM) via about 3.5 kilometres of 132 kV transmission line between the proposed on-site substation and the existing TransGrid Wagga North Substation. The transmission line may be overhead or underground, or a combination of both, subject to detailed design;*
- *battery storage system;*
- *control building including office, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems, operation and maintenance facilities, spare parts and staff amenities serviced by septic systems and rainwater tanks;*
- *car park;*
- *internal DC and AC cabling for electrical reticulation;*

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- *minor upgrade of the unsealed section of Trahairs Road, east of Byrnes Road, for site access (to be maintained as a single lane unsealed road);*
- *internal all-weather access tracks;*
- *internal fire trail and bushfire asset protection zones;*
- *security fencing around the solar farm;*
- *vegetation screening – plantings along the site boundaries where required;*
- *meteorological stations;*
- *subdivision of the following lots to allow the purchase of the required land for the proposal site, as shown in the plans of proposed subdivision (see Appendix B):*
 - *Lot 11 DP 1130519;*
 - *Lot 2 DP 590756;*
 - *Lot 174 DP 751405;*
 - *Lot 108 DP 751405.*

The subject land is not mapped bush fire prone by Wagga Wagga City Council and it is noted the land and surrounding lands may also contain a unmanaged grassland vegetation formation. Further the NSW RFS is the primary response agency for fighting fires within the site.

The NSW RFS has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and notes that the EIS included commitments to addressing the impacts of bush and structural fires on the facility.

As such, the NSW RFS has no objection to the proposal and provides the following recommended conditions to be included to any consent granted.

1. A Fire Management Plan (FMP) shall be prepared in consultation with NSW RFS Riverina Fire Control Centre. The FMP shall include:
 - 24 hour emergency contact details including alternative telephone contact;
 - Site infrastructure plan;
 - Fire fighting water supply plan;
 - Site access and internal road plan;
 - Construction of Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and their continued maintenance;
 - Location of hazards (Physical, Chemical and Electrical) that will affect fire fighting operations and procedures to manage identified hazards during fire fighting operations;
 - Such additional matters as required by the NSW RFS District Office (FMP review and updates).
2. The entire solar array development footprint to be managed as an Asset Protection Zone as outlined within section 4.1.3 and Appendix 5 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006' and the NSW Rural Fire Service's document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones'.
3. A 20,000 litre water supply (tank) fitted with a 65mm storz fitting shall be located adjoining the internal property access road within the required APZ.
4. To allow for emergency service personnel to undertake property protection activities, a 10 metre defensible space (APZ) that permits a minimum 4 metre wide, unobstructed vehicle access is to be provided around the perimeter of the solar array and associated infrastructure.

For any queries regarding this correspondence please contact Alan Bawden on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours Sincerely

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

John Ball

Manager – Planning and Environment Services

The RFS has made getting information easier. For general information on 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection, 2006', visit the RFS web page at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au and search under 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection, 2006'.