

8 August 2018

Natasha Homsey  
Environmental Assessment Officer – Planning Services  
Department of Planning & Environment  
GPO BOX 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Your Ref: SSD8703  
Our Ref: DOC18/551670

Emailed: Natasha.Homsey@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Miss Homsey,

**Re: Springdale Solar Farm (SSD8703) – Environmental Impact Statement**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Springdale Solar Farm Project (SSD8703). This is a response from the Department of Planning & Environment – Division of Resources & Geoscience, Geological Survey of New South Wales (GSNSW).

GSNSW specific requirements for the Springdale Solar Farm Project (SSD 8703) required the proponent to include in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) a mining and exploration title and application search referencing DRGs MinView databases. Further, the proponent was required to consult with Yass Valley Council regarding the operational status of the Tallagandra Pit, located approximately 400 metres south of the proposal area, with a record of consultation to be included in the EIS. In addition, GSNSW was to be consulted in regard to any proposed biodiversity offset measures to ensure that there are no potential sterilisation impacts to resources (Our ref: OUT17/38489).

GSNSW has reviewed and assessed the EIS and acknowledge that the proponent has addressed mining, exploration and minerals in the EIS, and has reviewed the Divisions online MinView database, successfully identifying that there are no mining or exploration title or applications indicated over or in the vicinity of the Project site (refer to page 119 of EIS).

In relation to Tallagandra Pit, the proponent states “... *surrounding mineral extraction points have been generally decommissioned with the exception of Tallagandra Pit where construction materials are extracted only intermittently. Despite potential increases in traffic along Tallagandra Lane which runs alongside Tallagandra Pit, no extraction of minerals or activities under extractive licences would be directly affected by the construction of the proposal*” (refer to page 121 of EIS). GSNSW requires the proponent to consult with Yass Valley Council regarding the operational status of Tallagandra Pit and provide evidence and any outcomes of consultation.

GSNSW note biodiversity offset measures have been proposed for the retirement of 48 species credits generated from the potential impacts of the Project. GSNSW request to be consulted in relation to the proposed location of any offsite biodiversity offset areas or any supplementary biodiversity measures to ensure there is no consequent reduction in access to prospective land for mineral exploration, or potential for sterilisation of mineral or extractive resources.



## Planning & Environment

Resources & Geoscience

DOC18/551670

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@geoscience.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.minerals@geoscience.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

Cressida Gilmore  
Manager – Land Use