



Your reference :
Our reference : SF18/97470; DOC18/876287-16
Contact : Helen Smith, 02 6883 5374

Natasha Homsey
Resource and Energy Assessments – Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

11 December 2018

Dear Ms Homsey

Maryvale Solar Farm (SSD 8777) – EIS Exhibition

I refer to your email dated 14 November 2018 to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) requesting comment on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Maryvale Solar Farm (the project). The EPA understands that the project will be assessed by the Department of Planning and Environment under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* as a State Significant Development.

The EPA has considered the details provided and notes that the project incorporates the construction and operation of a 125 MW photovoltaic solar farm and associated infrastructure approximately fifteen (15) kilometres north east of Wellington.

The EPA notes that the project is not deemed a Scheduled Activity in accordance with Schedule 1 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. Therefore, the proponent will not be required to apply for an Environment Protection Licence for the project should planning consent be granted.

However, the EPA would like to provide the following comments with respect to the project:

Water Management

The EPA notes the EIS addresses surface water issues and refers to a commitment to prepare a soil and water management plan for the construction phase of the project. The EPA also notes the proposed erosion and sediment mitigation measure of maintaining at least 80% groundcover during operational phase of the project. The EPA considers it appropriate to require a soil and water management plan for the operational phase of the project.

Waste Management

The EIS refers to a Waste Management Plan that is to be developed. The EPA supports the development of a Waste Management Plan prior to the commencement of construction given issues that other similar developments in the region have experienced in managing the large volume of waste that is generated during construction phase.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss this matter further please contact Helen Smith at the EPA's Central West Dubbo office by telephoning 02 6883 5374 or by email at central.west@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

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

SHERIDAN LEDGER
A/Head Central West Region
Environment Protection Authority