



# Department of Industry

OUT18/17864

Natasha Homsey  
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Dear Ms Homsey

## **Maryvale Solar Farm (8777) EIS Exhibition**

I refer to your email of 14 November 2018 to the Department of Industry (DoI) in respect to the above matter. Comment has been sought from relevant branches of Lands & Water and Department of Primary Industries. Any further referrals to Department of Industry can be sent by email to [landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

The department provides the following comments and recommendations for consideration in assessment of the proposal.

### **DoI – Water and Natural Resources Access Regulator**

#### **Recommendations Prior to Project Determination**

- The proponent should seek confirmation that water can be sourced from an appropriately authorised and reliable supply. Where additional extraction points are required or the authorised use is proposed to change, an impact assessment will be required and mitigating measures developed where necessary.

#### **Recommendation Post Project Determination**

- The proponent should prepare a Soil and Water Management Plan and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan in consultation with Lands and Water.
- The redesign of 1st and 2nd order watercourses needs to be in accordance with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (NRAR 2018).
- The proponent construct any internal access tracks with crossings over 1st and 2nd order streams in accordance with the Guidelines for Watercourse Crossings in Waterfront Land (NRAR 2018).

### **DPI Agriculture**

- The current agricultural productivity of the site should be assessed/obtained. Further information can be found in **Attachment A**.
- The value of the agricultural land should be recognised through developing protocols and outcomes associated with the draft decommissioning and rehabilitation management plan that includes agriculture as a final land use.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A King".

Alex King  
Director Cabinet and Legislation Services  
**Lands and Water - Strategy and Policy**  
14 December 2018

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**Agriculture Resources**

Crop yields and stocking rates over a minimum of the last 3 years should be used as a baseline data set to assist in providing agricultural indicators to guide the return of land back to agricultural production for decommissioning purposes. This should form part of the criteria for land rehabilitation outcomes to be achieved especially for agricultural purposes. Other criteria to be considered includes physical aspects (depth of topsoil, drainage/soil permeability), as well as chemical aspects (pH, cation exchange capacity, other fertility aspects) that would be part of the decommissioning and rehabilitation plan. This is verified biophysical strategic agricultural land, so to achieve the existing (pre-construction) land and soil capability adequate consideration of pre-existing parameters will be required. It is not “highly reversible” without clear and detailed baseline assessment that can inform monitoring and final decommissioning processes being undertaken. The site is of high quality agricultural land that is suitable for cropping.