

Lander Robinson  
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer  
Department Planning, Industry and Environment

15 September 2020

Dear Mr Robinson,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed State significant Yarren Hut Solar Farm (YHSF) development (SSD 10415).

Bogan Shire Council (BSC) encourages sustainable development that provides positive community benefits and as such supports the proposed YHSF project as described in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and supporting documents which form part of the State Significant Development (SSD) Application. This support is based on appropriate conditions of consent and the consideration of the following comments into any Development Consent that may be issued.

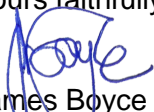
1. At its Ordinary meeting of 27 August 2020 BSC resolved “Council encourages the proponent of the State Significant Development – Solar Farm No 2 to support local businesses”.  
A commitment to source workers locally is noted within the Executive summary of the EIS and will be encouraged and monitored by BSC.
2. That the YHSF development (SSD 10415) if approved, contains appropriate conditions in line with the NSW Government document titled “Indicative Standard Conditions for SSD ” – Solar projects 2018.
3. The principal terms of the final draft of the Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) dated 20 August 2020 between the proponent and BSC are supported and these terms of the VPA form part of any Development Consent that may be issued.
4. Details are not provided of wastewater disposal system to be included as part of the development. Whilst the EIS indicates there will be staff amenities provided it is generally silent of the method to be used to treat and dispose of wastewater generated by the staff amenities building. BSC would suggest details are provided as part of an application under s68 of the Local Government Act 1993 which is to be made to BSC.
5. Paragraph 8.3.5 of the Planning for Bushfire Protection Guidelines 2019 (PBP) acknowledges the risk of bushfires to wind and solar farms and has specific requirements for these types of development which should be included as part of the assessment including (but not limited to) the preparation of a Bushfire Emergency Management and Operations Plan.
6. The EIS acknowledges the potential bushfire risk and proposes the use of a 10m Asset Protection Zone (APZ) and 20,000L water tank. It is recommended that the static firefighting water supply facility should comply with the provisions of Table 7.4a of PBP.

7. The EIS indicates that the development has a life expectancy of 50 years and provides some commentary on the Rehabilitation and Decommissioning Management Plan (RDMP) however does not indicate when this will be produced. BSC is aware that in other industries the RDMP is prepared at an early stage in case the RDMP has to be implemented sooner than planned. BSC would suggest as a condition of Development Consent that the RDMP is developed within the first 5 years of the commencement of operations at the facility and is reviewed on a 5 year cycle.
8. It is anticipated that if the RDMP is prepared and implemented in accordance with the above recommendation, potential matters such as benchmarks, milestones and monitoring of the rehabilitation programme will be addressed.
9. The EIS is proposing that a Waste Management Plan (WMP) is developed, however there is no detail around the timeframe for the development of the WMP. As the local waste management facility operator BSC would request a stakeholder position in the review of the WMP in order to determine the estimated waste generated both in the construction and operational phases.  
This will allow the volume of waste to be calculated and to nominate the location of the approved waste facility that the waste is to be disposed of.

Council appreciates the opportunity to be involved in the review of the EIS and associated documents and trusts that the comments in this submission will assist the Department in its assessment of the proposed development.

If you require any further clarification of the observations made in this correspondence please contact me via email [james.boyce@bogan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:james.boyce@bogan.nsw.gov.au) or telephone 68359013.

Yours faithfully



James Boyce  
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