

Javier Canon Senior Policy Officer Local Government Planning Policy NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

Emailed: via Planning Portal

11 November 2020

Dear Mr Canon

Subject: Tilbuster Solar Farm (SSD 9619) – Advice on EIS

This is a response from the NSW Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience (MEG).

MEG has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement for the Tilbuster Solar Farm Project and makes the following comments:

- The proponent states that no current Mining Act titles intersected the project area. Since November 7, 2019, a new Exploration Licence Application (ELA6077) was submitted by Kooky Resources Pty Ltd. MEG requests the proponent to contact Kooky Resources Pty Ltd to determine their level of interest. As stated in the SEARs (DOC18/733180), the titles search referenced in the Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) should be updated for the EIS. This is to ensure that other title holders with interests in the subject area are made aware of the solar farm project.
- The proponent states retirement of ecosystem and species credits are required to offset the residual impacts of the project. We request to be consulted in relation to the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas (both on and off site) 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.

Queries regarding the above information should be directed to the GSNSW - Land Use team at <u>landuse.minerals@geoscience.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Steven Palmer Manager, Land Use Assessment Geological Survey of NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience

Our ref: DOC20/866492 Your ref: SSD-9619