

OUT22/4300

Mr Javier Canon
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning and Environment
C/- Major Projects Portal

Dear Mr Canon

Review of Daroolbagie Solar Farm Proposal (SSD-10387) Forbes Shire

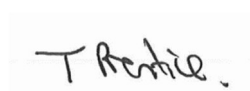
Thank you for your correspondence dated 17 March 2022 regarding the Daroolbagie Solar Farm Proposal. The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture is committed to the protection and growth of agricultural industries, and the land and resources upon which these industries depend.

The environmental assessment for this proposal is sound in regard to the land and soil resource and land use conflict risk assessment. DPI recommends the below be considered during project development:

- The agricultural productivity of the site should be recorded. This, in addition to the information contained in the land and soil assessment, provides baseline data to inform final land rehabilitation monitoring and outcomes if the land is to be returned back to agriculture. Ideally about 10 years of data including yield and an estimate of gross production information (based on current rates) is recommended.
- The site management plan should detail groundcover management during operational phases including grazing or other methods of vegetation control.
- If grazing is to be undertaken on site a stock management component should be incorporated into the site management plan. This should detail issues such as fencing, access to water, loading and transport infrastructure.
- The erosion and sediment control measures need to consider ameliorating any disturbed soils on site with gypsum due to their sodicity. Sodic soils are susceptible to tunnel erosion or ponding and soil dispersion even if the land is relatively flat. The soil and land assessment includes data on soil clay content and exchangeable sodium percentage which can guide the use of gypsum for this purpose.

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please contact me on 0429 226 or by email at landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



12/4/22

Tamara Prentice
Manager Agricultural Land Use Planning