



Our ref: DOC20/46748

Lander Robinson  
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer  
Resources Assessments 1B  
Department of Planning Infrastructure and Environment  
By email: [lander.robinson@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lander.robinson@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Lander

### **Notice of Exhibition of application for Yarren Hut Solar Farm, Nyngan (SSD 10415)**

Thank you for the opportunity for Heritage NSW to review and comment on the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

Heritage NSW have reviewed and considered the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment for the project prepared by NGH Pty Ltd (16 June 2020) and the Aboriginal cultural values assessment report prepared by the Bogan Aboriginal Corporation (BAC) for the same project dated 27 February 2020.

#### **Project description**

The proposed development involves a 28 Mega Watt (MW) solar farm located approximately 17 kilometres (km) north west of Nyngan. The proposal covers an area of 1204 hectares (ha) of flat cultivated and highly disturbed land of which 92 ha would be subdivided for the proposed solar farm development. The construction activities include installing solar arrays and associated infrastructure and underground cabling necessary to connect the solar farm to a 66-kV power line.

#### **Nil harm to ACH**

Both assessment reports listed above did not identify any Aboriginal objects within the project boundary at threat from the proposal (NGH 2020:48, BAC 2020:4) although NGH has advised that the boundary fence be slightly modified to ensure no inadvertent harm occurs to site Yarren Hut 2, a potential remnant Aboriginal oven (revealing some clay heat retainers).

#### **Proposed management recommendations are adequate**

The management recommendations described by NGH (2020:60) are reasonable given the very low evidence of Aboriginal occupation and high levels of disturbance. Heritage NSW has also considered that the project area is away from the riverine environments where Aboriginal sites within the semi-arid zone are mostly concentrated. It is further noted that the BAC assessment has raised no concerns or recommendations.

The unexpected finds protocols adequately advises on ways to manage Aboriginal cultural heritage during project construction phases.

**ACH assessment is adequate**

Heritage NSW is satisfied with the ACH assessment undertaken including the Aboriginal consultation. The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued for the project have been adequately addressed.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Phil Purcell, Archaeologist at Heritage NSW on 68835341 or phil.purcell@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SH', located below the 'Yours sincerely' text.

**DR SAMANTHA HIGGS**

Senior Team Leader

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation - North

Heritage NSW

10 September 2020