

Our reference : SF19/105757; DOC19/951689-2 Contact : Brooke Emerton, 02 6333 3800

> Planning Assessments Group NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: May Patterson

25 November 2019

Dear Ms Patterson,

Environmental Impact Statement - Quorn Park Solar Farm (SSD 9097)

I refer to your request for advice sent to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on 30 October 2019, seeking comment on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for the proposed Quorn Park Solar Farm (SSD 9097) project by Quorn Park Solar Farm Pty Ltd.

Based on the information in the EIS, the project will not result in a scheduled activity under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and will not require a licence from the EPA. As such, the EPA has only briefly reviewed the EIS to provide limited advice on environmental issues.

The EPA notes the EIS assumes about 50ML of non-potable water will be required during construction and can be sourced from Parkes Shire Council's brick pit. Given current drought conditions, the applicant should consult further with Council to identify whether alternative water sources are needed for the project.

The EIS notes that some work may be undertaken outside standard construction hours, but that the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment is unlikely to approve such work.

The EPA reinforces that in general, only public infrastructure works need to be undertaken outside standard hours. Any out of hours work needs to be strongly justified for reasons other than convenience, for example the need to maintain the operational integrity of transport or essential utility infrastructure.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Brooke Emerton at the EPA's Central West Dubbo office by telephoning 02 6333 3800 or by email to <u>central.west@epa.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

DUNCAN McGREGOR Acting Unit Head Central West Region Environment Protection Authority

Phone 131 555 Phone +61 2 6333 3800 (from outside NSW) Fax+61 2 9995 5999TTY133 677ABN43 692 285 758

PO Box 1388 Bathurst NSW 2795 Australia L102,346 Panorama Avenue Bathurst NSW 2795 Australia

info@epa.nsw.gov.au www.epa.nsw.gov.au