



---

## **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT**

### **West Wyalong Solar Installation**

228-230 Blands Lane Wyalong NSW

Prepared for Lightsouce BP + Urbis

Revision 3

January 2019

Document prepared by Kristi Jørgensen – Director, Urban Unity

Revision 1 issued 5 December 2018 (*draft for comment*)

Revision 2 issued 21 December 2018 (*final for lodgement*)

Report finalised 20 January 2019 (*following DPE review*)

ABN 23 767 567 431

50 Elizabeth Street  
Tighes Hill NSW 2297

## Contents

1. Introduction .....	4
2. Consultation requirements (SSD) .....	5
3. Consultation approach.....	6
4. Bland Shire Council profile.....	8
5. Stakeholder groups + contacts .....	10
6. Schedule of engagement activities .....	12
7. Summary of face-to-face engagement activities.....	14
Community Information Session .....	14
One-on-one stakeholder meetings.....	15
Bland Shire Council .....	15
NSW Free Flight Society.....	15
8. Engagement with Quarry Operators .....	17
9. Engagement with Mining Exploration Licence Holders.....	18
10. Project clarifications .....	19
11. Summary position .....	23

## Attachments

Attachment A: Community information booklet  
 Attachment B: Advert in West Wyalong Advocate  
 Attachment C: A1 boards presented during community event  
 Attachment D: FAQ's  
 Attachment E: Response form  
 Attachment F: Media Release  
 Attachment G: Newspaper article (West Wyalong Advocate)  
 Attachment H: Presentation to Bland Shire Council  
 Attachment I: Record of meeting with NSW Free Flight Society  
 Attachment J: Letter of no objection received from NSW Free Fight Society

# 1. Introduction

This report presents the strategy and outcomes of the thorough stakeholder engagement process undertaken for the West Wyalong solar installation proposed by Lightsource Development Services Australia and Urbis (nominated planning consultant).

The strategy steps out engagement activities that have occurred, addressing consultation requirements defined in the environmental assessment for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required for this State Significant Development (SSD).

This engagement process specifically pertains to development of the land at 228-230 Blands Land Wyalong NSW (the *site*) for the purpose of a solar installation. Associated infrastructure will be required to facilitate operation of the solar installation and this will include

- Connection to the network grid, allowing the power to be used
- Perimeter fencing
- CCTV installation
- Maintenance track access
- Monitoring House
- Auxiliary Transformer, and
- On-site battery storage facility.

The engagement process and collateral material was prepared based on the maximum developable area for a solar installation. This area could yield up to 250 MW DC. At the time of lodgement, the solar installation is expected cover a significantly smaller area (approximately 280Ha) and will generate 90 MW AC. Given the approach to engagement for a significantly larger capacity and site coverage, it is considered that no further engagement as required as a result of a smaller solar installation being perused.

This summary report includes the:

- Aims, structure and methodology of the engagement plan
- Key stakeholders of the project
- Schedule of engagement activities
- Issues and clarifications raised during the engagement process, and
- Actions and outcomes as a result of the overall process.



## 2. Consultation requirements (SSD)

Documentation provided by the NSW Government Department of Planning and Environment on 21 September 2018 includes the following requirements for consultation:

*During the preparation of the EIS, you should consult with relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, infrastructure and service providers, community groups, affected landowners, exploration licence holders, quarry operators and mineral title holders (including Evolution Mining (Cowel) Pty Limited).*

*In particular, you must undertake detailed consultation with affected landowners surrounding the development and Bland Shire Council.*

*The EIS must describe the consultation process and the issues raised, and identify where the design of the development has been amended in response to these issues. Where amendments have not been made to address an issue, a short explanation should be provided.*

This report takes into account the requirements of the Department, which marries with the overall ethos held by Lightsource Development Services Australia in terms of engagement and communication with stakeholders. The following Section in this report explores further the commitment by Lightsource Development Services Australia for genuine consultation.

### 3. Consultation approach

From the outset of Lightsource Development Services Australia's interests in Australia, a clear agenda for genuine stakeholder engagement has been set. This principle, combined with the values inherent in Urban Unity, has created a process of engagement that will deliver a programme of events and activities that has been:

- Transparent
- Robust, and
- Genuine.

Stakeholder engagement involves nominated interested parties in the decision-making process at various points within the project. In engaging with stakeholders through this initial part of the process, we will also seek to find stakeholder groups with an interest in partnering with Lightsource Development Services Australia on various aspects of the project, including post-construction.

Effective engagement has three important functions which are to:

- Facilitate a deeper understanding of issues and decisions required for the project
- Improve the quality of decisions made for the project, and
- Allows people to be involved in decision making that has effect on their identified interests.

As a project team, all parties are committed to genuine engagement with stakeholders identified through this robust information-gathering exercise. The success of major development projects is closely linked to the manner in which stakeholders are collaborated with, ensuring clear alignment of vision and objectives from project inception, through construction and completion, including operation of the facility. This commitment to engagement combined with the parameters set by the Department of Planning and Environment fuelled development of this particular strategy, which was implemented in collaboration with Lightsource Development Services Australia, Urbis and Urban Unity.

By pursuing genuine stakeholder engagement, the team collectively is aiming to deliver a project that delivers on a wide range of stakeholder needs.

The stakeholder engagement has been progressed in two Phases. The preparation of the strategy represented the output of Phase 1, detailed below.

Phase 2 relates specifically to implementation of the agreed strategy. This summary report collates relevant components of both Phases in order to present a clear narrative around the engagement process for the West Wyalong Solar Installation.

#### **Phase 1: Development of Stakeholder Engagement Strategy resulting in an internal reference document**

A desktop analysis was undertaken to develop a tailored strategy appropriate for the site. This included identifying the following:

- A Stakeholder Action Plan, nominating key activities to be delivered during the Implementation Phase (Phase 2)
- A Stakeholder Inventory, identifying, where applicable:
  - Catchment area of landholders/residents within the site vicinity
  - Local resident group/s
  - Local interest groups
  - Any interested Government representatives.

### **Phase 2: Implementation of Stakeholder Engagement Strategy**

During Phase 2 of the project, the strategy was implemented. Feedback and outcomes are captured and collated within this report, representing the conclusion of the process. This report is intended for inclusion with the planning permit application documentation.

### **Future Review and Update**

If the development application is approved for the purposes of a solar installation on the site in West Wyalong, consultation will need to be ongoing during the construction and operational phases of the project. A variety of methods will be used during this process that will be fitting to the stage of delivery and nature of information being communicated. This report can serve as a 'living document' that can be expanded and updated to capture future activities and on-going engagement.

## 4. Bland Shire Council profile

This section provides an overview and background of the Bland Shire Council area and in particular the town of West Wyalong. This seeks to provide an understanding on the makeup and character of the community and the area.



**Bland Shire Council Local Government Area**  
*Googlemaps*

The land that comprises the Bland Shire Council was originally settled by the Wiradjuri people, with the commencement of colonial settlement starting in the 1830's in recognition of the area's agricultural potential. Sheep and cattle runs were introduced. Gold was discovered in the area in the 1890's and Wyalong laid out in 1894 to service an expected population of 10,000. An established water supply in the area that came to be known as West Wyalong saw the neighbouring town laid out in 1895. Today, West Wyalong is located on the junction of the Newell and Mid-Western Highways and is the largest town within the shire. Other major towns within the shire are Barmedman, Tallimba, Ungarie, Weethalle and Mirrool.

The estimated regional population of Bland Local Government Area (LGA) was estimated at 6,018 in July 2012 by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The median age was stated to be 41 years. The census in 2016 estimated a population of 5,995 showing a marginal decline in population over the four-year census period. Bland shire covers an area of 8,560km<sup>2</sup>.

The Bland Shire is located at the following distances from major cities and regional centres:

- 468km from Sydney
- 572km from Melbourne
- 279km from Canberra
- 155km from Wagga Wagga, and
- 252km from Dubbo.

The major economic activities of the shire are agriculture, mining, transport, tourism and wholesale distribution.

The Council is recognised as a key stakeholder in the planning and delivery phase of the solar installation, and as such, early engagement and collaboration with the Council has been critical to this process.

*Sourced from Bland Shire Council website; Wikipedia; NSW Department of Planning & Environment  
accessed October 2018*

## 5. Stakeholder groups + contacts

Appropriate engagement strategies are set out below for each stakeholder group that has been identified by the project team and by the NSW Government Department of Planning and Environment.

The general approaches applied to all groups is to either *inform*, *consult* or *involve*, or any combination of mechanisms.

Stakeholder		Consultation Type
Local Council	<p>Bland Shire Council is the Shire in which the project is located and as such, holds a significant role as a stakeholder for the project.</p> <p><b>Detail related to the engagement with the Council is contained in Section 7 of this report.</b></p>	<p><b>Inform, Consult and Involve</b></p> <p>The Council has been engaged from the early planning of the project, throughout discussions with the community. The project team continue to keep the Council abreast of project status and issues.</p>
Media	<p>There is one primary newspaper in the area being the West Wyalong Advocate. This paper covers the most direct area appropriate for this project.</p> <p>Whilst the paper has a Facebook presence, it only has 44 likes and therefore was not considered to be a useful vessel for engagement.</p> <p>Other papers that cover West Wyalong in circulation are the Condoblin Argus, Wagga Advertiser and Riverina Leader.</p> <p>ABC Riverina Radio (based in Wagga Wagga) has previously covered information in relation to solar farms in the wider region.</p> <p>The radio station has 16,000 likes.</p> <p><b>All papers and ABC Riverina were provided with the Media Release and notification of the public event. The West Wyalong Advocate attended.</b></p>	<p><b>Inform</b></p> <p>The Media Release was provided to all outlets, as well as the public notification of community information session</p>
Surrounding landowners	<p>The NSW Free Flight Society is an adjacent user group that has a variety of questions to raise with the project team. The group has approximately 250 members and shares the western site boundary of the proposed development.</p>	<p><b>Inform, consult and involve</b></p> <p>Engagement with these key nominated stakeholders has been commenced early in the process through a variety of means.</p>

Stakeholder		Consultation Type
	<p>All nearby landowners were made aware of the project through distribution of the community information booklet. Direct neighbours have been contacted individually to discuss detailed issues. The owner of the land to the east and south of the proposed development has been consulted on multiple occasions in relation to specific issues pertaining to easement and access.</p> <p><b>Adjacent neighbours have been engaged with in relation to specific site-based issues and relevant project clarifications are contained in Section 7 of this report.</b></p>	
<b>Quarry operators</b>	<p>In accordance with the EIS requirements, the project team has provided project information to the following quarry operators:</p> <p>Millers Metals</p> <p>Cleary P + AL</p> <p>iMinco (Cawal Gold Operation West Wyalong)</p> <p><b>Details of engagement with the quarry operators is contained in Section 8 of this report.</b></p>	<p><b>Inform and consult</b></p> <p>The nominated operators have been provided with the community information booklet – minimal interest was expected. Follow up with companies has been undertaken.</p>
<b>Mineral exploration licence holders</b>	<p>Current exploration licences relevant to the West Wyalong, as listed by the NSW Government Planning and Environment, have been contacted including:</p> <p>Evolution Mining (Cawal)</p> <p>Sandfire Resources NL</p> <p>St Barbara Limited</p> <p>Argent Minerals</p> <p>Goldfields Australasia</p> <p><b>Details of engagement with the mining exploration licence holders is contained in Section 9 of this report.</b></p>	<p><b>Inform and consult</b></p> <p>The nominated licence holders have been provided with the community information booklet – minimal interest was expected. Follow up with companies has been undertaken.</p>
<b>Registered Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs)</b>	<p>Aboriginal persons or organisations that hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places in the West Wyalong area will be requested to engage with the project team.</p>	<p><b>Inform, consult and involve</b></p> <p>Engagement with RAOs will be led by Artefact and are summarised in the outcomes statement of the Aboriginal Focus Group held on 11 December 2018 (refer to separate document).</p>

## 6. Schedule of engagement activities

Different methods of stakeholder engagement were used in order to gain feedback on the proposed development, including:

- **Community information booklet – refer to Attachment A** – this document provided project information presented in printed format (double sided A3). The booklet presented an informative brochure providing an overview of the project, high level concept design and project timeframes. It also included:
  - The strategic context of renewable energy within Australia
  - A description of the West Wyalong solar installation, including specific project statistics
  - Why this site is suitable for a solar installation, and
  - Local community benefits.

This was distributed to approximately 1,350 businesses and households in Wyalong and West Wyalong 2 weeks prior to the major community event (discussed later in this report) and also included an invitation to the event. The purpose of this mailout is to notify local community of the proposed development and provide an invitation to and details of the community information session. It also included the project team's contact details.

**The community information booklet was delivered to homes in Wyalong and West Wyalong on 24 October 2018.**

- **Local newspaper advert – refer to Attachment B** - 1 week prior to the community information session, the event was advertised in the West Wyalong Advocate.

**The newspaper advert inviting community to the information session was printed on 31 October 2018.**

- **Community Information Session** – This event was held as a drop-in session held at the West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club, West Wyalong. The event was held between 4pm – 7pm in order to cater to a wide demographic of the population.

The community was invited to attend the event in order to gain further information on the project, and to meet members of the project team. Various collateral was prepared for the event, including:

- A1 informative boards – **refer to Attachment C**
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet – **refer to Attachment D**, and
- Community response form – **refer to Attachment E**.

**The community information session was held on 7 November 2018.**

- **One-on-one meetings and/or discussions with key stakeholders** – nominated key stakeholders and groups were introduced to the project through provision of the community information booklet and following this, were contacted to follow up on any clarifications they required. These stakeholders included:
  - Local Council, being Bland Shire Council
  - Surrounding land owners



- Quarry operators
- Exploration licence holders
- Mineral title holders,
- Registers Aboriginal Organisations, and
- Interest groups utilising adjacent land.

Meetings and/or discussions provided key stakeholders an opportunity to ask questions about the proposal or provide comments relating to the proposed development. It also provided the project team with an ability to respond directly to any questions.

The Registered Aboriginal Organisations have been engaged by consulting team, Artefact. Findings of this are contained within a separate consultant report.

Details of the face-to-face engagement activities are provided in the following Section of this report.

**One-on-one meetings were held on 7 November 2018. A project briefing was given to Council on 18 October 2018.**

- **Local newspaper media releases** – a media release was provided to local media sources one day after the community information session. A second media release may be released in the future if considered appropriate at the time. At this stage only the one media release has been circulated. The media release is contained in **Attachment F**, and the corresponding newspaper article in the West Wyalong Advocate included in **Attachment G**.

**A media release was provided to media on 10 November 2018.**

- **Project email address** – an email address was set up and included in all project collateral. This was to allow the community to contact the project team in order to gain more information in relation to the project.

**westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au was regularly monitored by the project team. Two emails were received that did not relate to the wider discussion with the community.**

## 7. Summary of face-to-face engagement activities

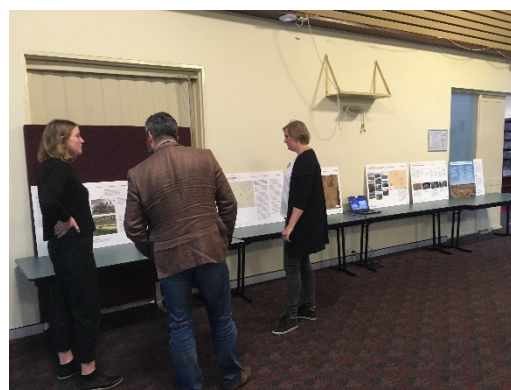
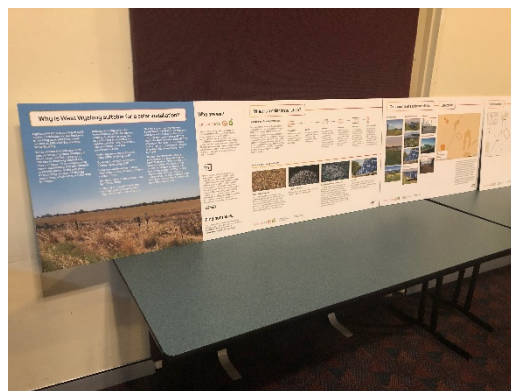
### Community Information Session

The event was held at the West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club, West Wyalong on 7 November 2018, between 4pm – 7pm. The event was attended by approximately 30 people across the 3 hours that the drop-in session was held. Seven project team members were present for the event in order to answer any queries raised by the attendees.

The event was set up in a manner that encouraged engagement with the project team in a friendly, approachable manner with ample space for circulation around the information boards (contained in **Attachment C** and displayed below in imagery). Tables and seating were also provided to allow informal discussions to take place. Attendees were able to help themselves to refreshments provided.

Attendees were encouraged to register upon arrival and provide feedback on the proposal and consultation event. All registered attendees will be kept abreast of the proposed development via email updates.

The overall sentiment displayed from attendees was one of genuine interest in the project. Those that chose to attend the event did so with a desire to learn more or have discourse around pertinent issues. There was no specific resistance to the project displayed by attendees and significant regard was placed on the investment that the project would bring to the region.



Imagery of the event held at West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club

Issues raised and clarifications discussed during the event are included in Section 10 of this report.

## One-on-one stakeholder meetings

### Bland Shire Council

The Council is recognised as one of the major stakeholders in the project not only due to the location of the site, but also because of the important advocacy role the Council can play in the community.

The project team, including representatives from Lightsource Development Services Australia, Urbis and Urban Unity, attended a meeting and site visit with representatives of the Bland Shire Council on 18 October 2018. The meeting provided an opportunity to present the project to representatives of the Bland Shire Council and explore any issues or clarifications the Council wished to discuss. The presentation provided to Council is contained in **Attachment H**.



Meeting with Bland Shire Council

The meeting was largely informative for the Council and allowed some dialogue over timing of the project and delivery. No specific concerns were raised during the presentation and following discussion.

### NSW Free Flight Society

The NSW Free Flight Society (NSW FFS) has ownership of land directly west of the site and as such were identified as a key stakeholder in the project. The project team met with a representative of the NSW FFS on 7 November 2018 – a record of meeting is contained in **Attachment I**.



Meeting with NSW FFS

The meeting was progressed in a manner that was collegiate, recognising that there were specific issues and clarifications that NSW FFS wanted to discuss. Given multiple conversations that had occurred prior to the face-to-face discussions, the team were able to address the items directly.

Issues raised are as follows, being:

- Heat island effect – concern for the impact that potential increases in temperature around the solar array may have on the craft
- Site access – at times, it is likely that members of the NSW FFS will need to access the solar installation site in order to retrieve craft that overshoot the boundary
- Liability for damage – in the event that the craft cause any damage to the solar panels, the question of liability has been raised.

Responses to these items are discussed in section 10.

The engagement process has resulted in alignment between the NSW FFS and Lightsource Development Services Australia and a letter of no objection from the NSW FFS is contained in **Attachment J**.

## 8. Engagement with Quarry Operators

The table below summarises the engagement with quarry operators.

Stakeholder	Action
<b>Millers Metals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>• Follow up call on 5 November – noted receipt of information - referral to another contact</li> <li>• Follow up on 29 November – no response</li> <li>• Discussion with alternate contact held 11 January 2019 – re-provision of consultation materials</li> <li>• No issues raised but happy to discuss work opportunities that might come from the delivery of the solar installation.</li> </ul>
<b>Cleary P + AL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>• Follow up call on 5 November – message left; no response received</li> <li>• Follow up on 3 December – no interest in the project but happy to discuss work opportunities that might come from the delivery of the solar installation.</li> </ul>
<b>iMinco (Cowal Gold Operation West Wyalong)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>• Follow up call on 5 November – message left; no response received</li> <li>• Follow up call on 3 December – no interests in the project expressed.</li> </ul>

## 9. Engagement with Mining Exploration Licence Holders

The table below summarises the engagement with mining exploration licence holders.

Stakeholder	Action
<b>Evolution Mining (Cowal)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>Follow up on 5 November – no response</li> <li>Follow up on 8 November - referral to licence manager</li> <li>No response; further call to be placed in w/c 3 December</li> <li>Follow up email on 7 December – commitment given to provide a response</li> <li>Follow up email on 9 December requesting feedback by COB 10 December, otherwise no comment assumed.</li> </ul>
<b>Sandfire Resources NL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>Response received - no clarifications sought or queries in relation to the proposal.</li> </ul>
<b>St Barbara Limited</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>Follow up call on 5 November – message left; no response received</li> <li>Follow up call on 3 December – commitment to get the relevant staff member to call in w/c 3 December</li> <li>Follow up call on 10 December – no response given.</li> </ul>
<b>Argent Minerals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>Follow up on commitment to provide response in w/c 3 December 2018</li> <li>Follow up call on 10 December</li> <li>Response received on 11 December – no concerns with development proposal.</li> </ul>
<b>Goldfields Australasia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community information booklet emailed on 1 November 2018</li> <li>Response received - no clarifications sought or queries in relation to the proposal.</li> </ul>

## 10. Project clarifications

The table below presents the items that required clarification during the engagement process. The table captures the issue, but also provides a response and action resulting from that commentary received.

The issues discussed here have been captured through all engagement activities, and do not pertain to one singular event.

Clarification	Response	Action
Definition of the site location – clarification was sought on the specific location of the site	<p>The project team recognise there are other activities within the Shire currently, including a proposal for another solar installation in the area. Esco Pacific has a proposal for a 130MW installation which is being progressed at a similar time to this development, that will deliver 350,000 solar panels on 259 hectares of land north-east of Wyalong.</p> <p>This has caused some confusion and as such, the project team recognises the need to clearly define the site during the community event.</p>	The A1 boards included a site location plan, and any clarifications were easily answered by talking the community through this board.
Personal access to the power generated – queries were raised as to whether the power generated would create positive impact on individual's power bills	The project team was able to clearly stipulate that the power created will be fed into the grid and will increase capacity on a large scale, rather than create impact for individuals in vicinity of the solar farm.	No action required.
Traffic during construction – clarification was sought as to the impact of increased traffic on the roads in the vicinity of the site	<p>The project team were able to discuss the intent of the traffic management plan which will be prepared in the next phase of planning for the project.</p> <p>Ultimately the team will look at both temporary and permanent measures required during construction and during ongoing operation of the site. These measures may include temporary seals on local roads to assist vehicle loading and dust management, and</p>	No action required at this time – the traffic management plan will be made public through standard development notification processes.



Clarification	Response	Action
	<p>the report will include specific details on how traffic entering and exiting the site will be managed.</p> <p>No major long-term traffic impacts are expected given the nature of the proposed development, with no permanent on-site staff, and operations and maintenance visits only as part of routine maintenance, and when otherwise required.</p>	
Glare from the panels – query over the extent of any glare that will be created by the solar array	Solar panels in themselves do not create any adverse glare impacts, as they are made with a non-reflective coating to increase the efficiency. Light bouncing off panels means less light being converted into electricity, so minimising glare is important. The solar installation concept plan has included border vegetation screening to minimise any potential for glare to surrounding areas.	No action required.
Delivery of more than one major solar farm installation in the region – the similar timing of the Esco Pacific project raised questions as to whether both projects are viable	The project team were clear in the position that the projects are in no way interrelated. Each project is subject to due planning process and will be considered on merit by the Department of Planning and Environment. Lightsource Development Services Australia are undertaking individual engagement with service providers and Government and therefore do not have knowledge of the Esco Pacific proposal beyond what is already within the public domain. The project team will continue to work in collaboration with stakeholders in Government and service providers so key entities are fully abreast of this project.	No action required.
Heat island effect – concern for the impact that potential increases in temperature around the solar array. In	Photovoltaic panels are not designed to radiate heat, and as such, the energy coming in to the site, from the sun, will remain the	The solar array and site fencing have been setback 100m from the south-western site



Clarification	Response	Action
<p>particular, the NSW FFS which shares the site's south western boundary were concerned that changes in air temperature could impact upon the flight of their craft.</p>	<p>same – there will be no increased energy input. Panels operate best when cool, and therefore they dissipate heat at a faster rate than features such as grassed earth or rock, which release heat over a longer period of time.</p> <p>Some increase in temperature may occur during the day up to 10m around the panels when compared to ambient temperature around farmland. Beyond 10m, no temperature increase is generally observed. Very few studies have been done on this to date and those that have been done are mostly based on urban conditions rather than rural.</p>	<p>boundary in recognition of this perceived issue, and to seek to accommodate overshoot of craft towards the proposed development.</p>
<p>Site access – it is likely that members of the NSW FFS will need intermittent access to the site in order to retrieve craft that overshoot the boundary</p>	<p>The site can only be accessed by trained professionals who understand the complexities around solar arrays and therefore, no public access can be facilitated. In the event that public access is needed to the site, operations and maintenance staff will be available, and are expected to be local to the site. Details will be provided to the NSW FFS to ensure craft can be retrieved.</p> <p>When major events are occurring on the land owned by NSW FFS, the project team will ensure a suitably qualified staff member is available on site to expedite craft retrieval.</p>	<p>No action required at this time – engagement with NSW FFS will be re-established to ensure all contact details are made accessible to members.</p>
<p>Liability for damage – in the event that the NSW FFS craft cause any damage to the solar panels, liability needs to be delineated</p>	<p>Lightsource Development Services Australia are aware of the issue in relation to liability in the event of any damage caused by craft entering the site by accident. The eventuality combined with the level of risk is acceptable to Lightsource Development Services Australia and as such, no liability will be borne by</p>	<p>No action required.</p>

Clarification	Response	Action
	NSW FFS for accidental damage caused by craft.	
Easements – infrastructure delivery over adjacent property was explored as a means to reduce the impact on vegetation in Myers Lane	Discussions with the adjacent landowner commenced in order to seek an easement across the land to the east of the site, in order to connection to the grid. It has not been possible to reach agreement on this alternative option, and therefore the proposal is progressing based on the Myers Lane connection.	Connection to the grid will be delivered along Myers Lane.

## 11. Summary position

This engagement strategy has been developed for consultation with nominated stakeholders in response to Lightsource Development Services Australia's project objectives, and also to respond to requirements of the SEARs as specified by the Department of Planning and Environment. The process delivered a programme of events and activities that has been transparent, robust and genuine. The success of major development projects is closely linked to the manner in which stakeholders are collaborated with, ensuring clear alignment of vision and objectives from project inception, through construction and completion, including operation of the facility.

With this approach defined by the project team, a variety of engagement activities have been progressed in order to disseminate information about the proposed solar installation. The process has also allowed the team to gather any project clarifications required from the community. This report summarises the process as a whole, revealing a robust approach that has engaged with a wide demographic of the Wyalong population.

In general, the discussions that have occurred display a sentiment of support for the project. The clarifications that have been sought by the community have been factually based, and the project team has been able to respond appropriately. More detailed discussions around project specifics have also resulted in general alignment between parties.

*January 2019*

## Attachment A

### Community Information Booklet

# WHO ARE WE?



Lightsource BP is a market leader in the funding, development and long-term management of solar projects and smart energy solutions. Our team in Australia are based in offices in Sydney and Melbourne. We work closely with local businesses and communities to supply clean, dependable and competitively priced energy.



Urbis is working with Lightsource BP to coordinate the State Significant Development application for submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. Urbis is an independent consultancy that advises developers, property owners, NGOs, community groups, industry associations and all levels of Government.

Urban Unity will be leading stakeholder discussions, prior to lodgement of the Application.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

It is important to us that the local community are fully informed of the plans for the site, and have the opportunity to comment on and shape the proposal. We will be holding an information evening to provide details about our project ideas at this stage, and we welcome your feedback.

The information event will be held on:  
**Wednesday 7th November 2018**

West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club  
100 Monash Street  
West Wyalong

Drop-in any time between 4pm and 7pm



# FIND OUT MORE

If you have queries in relation to this project, please contact Kristi Jorgensen, Urban Unity by calling **0406 027 365**, or emailing [westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au). Closing date for comments 14 November 2018.



e [info@lightsourcebp.com](mailto:info@lightsourcebp.com)  
[www.lightsourcebp.com](http://www.lightsourcebp.com)

# COMMUNITY INFORMATION PACK

PROPOSED SOLAR INSTALLATION AT 228-230 BLANDS LANE, WYALONG, NSW 2671



## STATISTICS



Approximately **563ha** of land



**525,433MWh**  
(megawatt hours) of electricity  
supplied per year



Equivalent to the energy needs of over  
**87,572** households



**420,346** tonnes of carbon emissions  
saved, equivalent to taking over  
**152,101** cars off the road



**350** construction jobs  
brought to the region



**3** skilled on-going roles

Get involved!

# COMMUNITY INFORMATION EVENT

Wednesday, 7th November 2018, at:

West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club  
100 Monash Street  
West Wyalong

Drop in any time between 4pm and 7pm



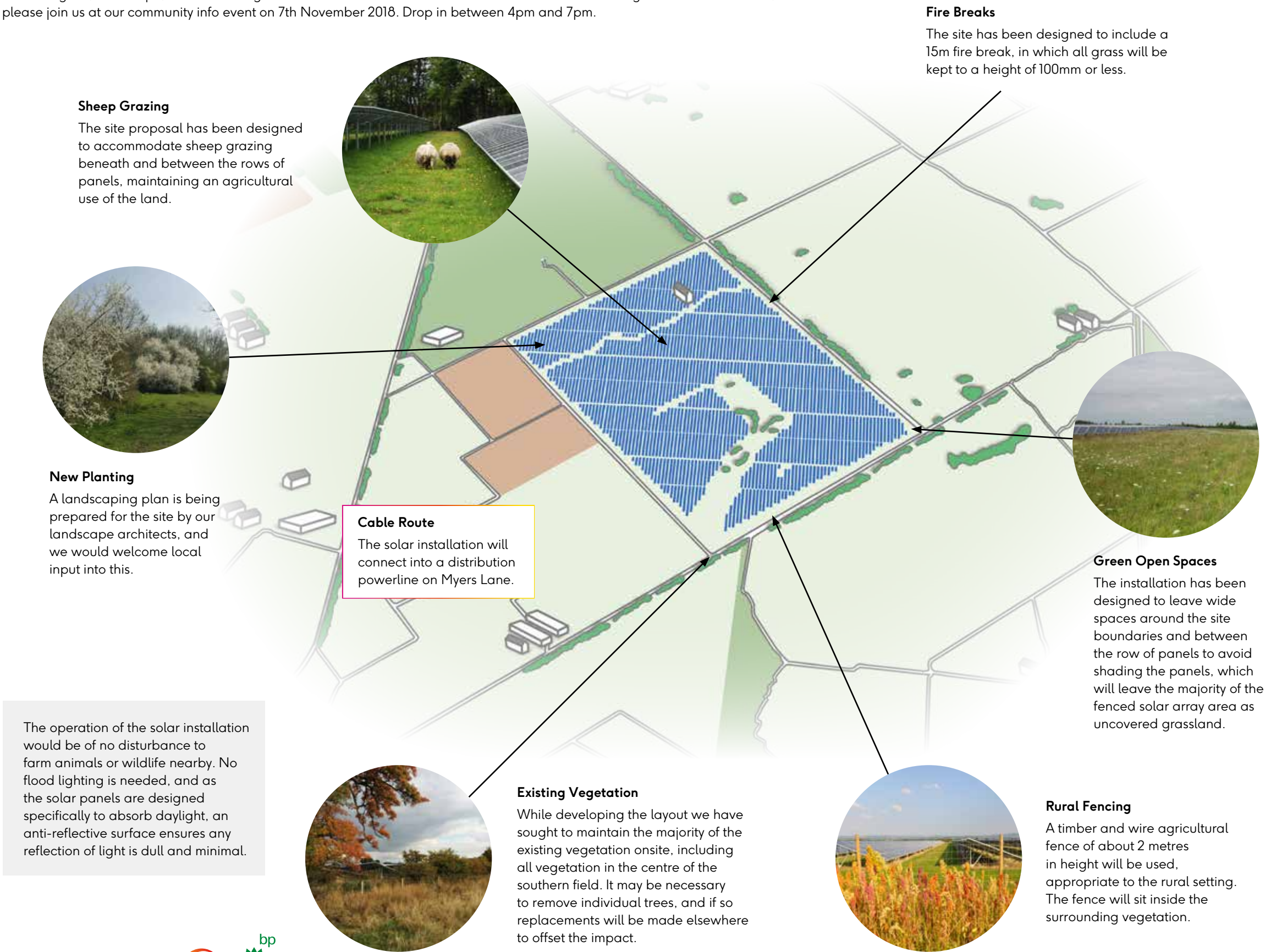
e [info@lightsourcebp.com](mailto:info@lightsourcebp.com)  
[www.lightsourcebp.com](http://www.lightsourcebp.com)



# OUR INITIAL THOUGHTS

## Proposed solar installation at 228-230 Blands Lane, Wyalong, NSW 2671

Our plans are in the early stages, so our design and planting proposals will evolve as we gather local input and the results of our ecological, landscape, cultural heritage and environmental assessments. These are our current thoughts. For further details, please join us at our community info event on 7th November 2018. Drop in between 4pm and 7pm.



## FAQS

### Why is this project important?

Solar is a passive form of technology, generating electricity without creating any waste products or pollutants. This makes it an ideal energy source for Australia, where the government has committed to reducing carbon emissions to 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2030. Introducing solar projects like this one to the grid diversifies the energy mix, and reduces the country's reliance on fossil fuels. On a more localised scale, the Minister for Regional NSW released a 20-year vision for economic growth (July 2018). The strategic document recognises renewable energy as an emerging industry for regional NSW and looks to provide greater security for the sector. Given slight economic decline has been recorded in regional inland areas in recent years, significant investment such as this project can positively impact the economy.

### Can agricultural activity continue on the site?

Solar installations are very compatible with agricultural activity, allowing for dual land use and providing the landowner with additional income. This site has been designed to allow the landowner to graze sheep beneath and between the rows of panels after the solar installation has been built.

### How will the equipment be protected?

The solar installation will be enclosed by a timber and wire agricultural fence about 2 metres in height, and CCTV cameras will monitor the boundary fence and area within the solar installation. These will be specifically positioned to make sure they do not impinge on the privacy of neighbours.

### How are the panels kept clean?

Generally, rainfall helps to keep the panels free of dust and dirt. There may be times throughout the year that the panels will be cleaned using water brought in on trucks..

### Do solar installations pose a health risk?

No - solar is a passive technology which doesn't produce any harmful by-products. All electrical equipment we use meets the standards under section 162 of the Radiocommunications Act 1992.

### Will the solar installation cause traffic disruption?

Once the solar installation is in place it requires very little maintenance and approximately monthly visits in regular cars or 4x4s would not cause traffic disruption. Whilst the solar installation is being constructed, a traffic management plan will be put in place.

### What happens if there is a fire?

We will be undertaking consultation with the CFA and we will create a Joint Safety Assessment Plan. We will work with the local CFA to ensure they have a plan and training once the site is operational that will allow them to respond to any threats safely.

## Attachment B

Advertisement of public event (West Wyalong Advocate)

# Proposed Development: West Wyalong Solar Installation

Wamboyn Rd

Clear Ridge Rd

Proposed solar installation

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION DROP-IN EVENT

**Wednesday 7 November 2018**

Visit the project team any time  
between 4pm and 7pm

**West Wyalong Services and  
Citizens Club**

**100 Monash Street, West Wyalong**

Lightsource BP, supported by Urbis, is proposing to build a solar installation on 563 hectares of existing agricultural farmland located at 228-230 Blands Lane, West Wyalong. Lightsource BP is a global market leader in the development and long-term management of large-scale solar projects and smart energy solutions. The company is working to generate competitively priced, dependable, clean energy to supply Australian businesses and communities. Generating renewable energy locally will assist New South Wales in meeting its renewable energy targets and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

The proposed site has been chosen due to its proximity to Essential Energy power lines, its general flat topography and its capacity for natural screening.

The proposed site is being investigated for its suitability to retain agricultural use (such as sheep grazing), alongside a solar installation. Our team is looking to engage with the community to gain your unique perspective on the site, with your feedback helping to shape our proposal and the future Planning Application submission to Bland Shire Council.

Please join us at the community event.

**If you are unable to attend the event but would like to discuss the project, please contact Kristi Jørgensen on 0406 027 365 or at [westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au)**

lightsourcebp





# Proposed Development: West Wyalong Solar Installation

Warrabool Rd

Cherry Ridge Rd

Proposed  
solar  
installation

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION DROP-IN EVENT

**Wednesday 7 November 2018**

Visit the project team any time  
between 4pm and 7pm

**West Wyalong Services and  
Citizens Club**

**100 Monash Street, West Wyalong**

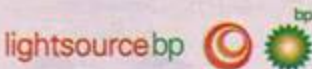
Lightsource BP, supported by Urbis, is proposing to build a solar installation on 563 hectares of existing agricultural farmland located at 228-230 Blands Lane, West Wyalong. Lightsource BP is a global market leader in the development and long-term management of large-scale solar projects and smart energy solutions. The company is working to generate competitively priced, dependable, clean energy to supply Australian businesses and communities. Generating renewable energy locally will assist New South Wales in meeting its renewable energy targets and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

The proposed site has been chosen due to its proximity to Essential Energy power lines, its general flat topography and its capacity for natural screening.

The proposed site is being investigated for its suitability to retain agricultural use (such as sheep grazing), alongside a solar installation. Our team is looking to engage with the community to gain your unique perspective on the site, with your feedback helping to shape our proposal and the future Planning Application submission to Department of Planning and Environment.

Please join us at the community event.

If you are unable to attend the event but would like to discuss the project, please contact Kristi Jergensen on 0406 027 365 or at [westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au)



## Attachment C

Boards presented at the community drop-in session

## Why is West Wyalong suitable for a solar installation?

Lightsource BP is proposing to build a solar installation on 563 hectares of existing agricultural farmland, located at 228-230 Blands Lane, West Wyalong.

We've chosen this site due to its natural screening along Gordon and Myer Lanes and flat topography. The site is relatively isolated and does not obstruct any neighbouring views. Additionally, it is well situated to provide power to the grid given its proximity to Essential Energy power lines, which run to a substation in Temora.

Renewable energy, and solar installations in particular add real value to Australia's energy mix as the Federal Government is a signatory of the Paris Agreement. The commitments of this agreement include:

- Reducing emissions to 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Doubling Australia's renewable energy capacity by 2020
- Using renewable energy to drive innovation, create jobs and provide a cleaner future
- Helping improve energy productivity by 40% by 2030
- Investing in innovation and clean technology to help capture the opportunities of a cleaner future.

This drive is mirrored by the New South Wales (NSW) State Government, who have set out their ambitions in the NSW Energy Action Plan (2013) and in the NSW Climate Change (2016) document. The vision in the Energy Action Plan is for delivery of a secure, affordable and clean energy future for NSW.

The fact that renewable energy technologies are supported by the NSW State Government means that West Wyalong is the ideal site for a solar installation. Australia is, of course, the perfect climate for solar photovoltaics (PV), and the land proposed for this solar installation has been carefully selected for maximum generation and benefit.

## Who are we?



Lightsource BP is a global market leader in the development and long-term management of large-scale solar projects and smart energy solutions. We are working to generate competitively priced, dependable, clean energy to supply Australian businesses and communities. The solar power produced by our projects in NSW will provide a source of clean, renewable power to the grid to be used locally by businesses and communities.



Urbis is working with Lightsource BP to progress the planning application to the Department of Planning and Environment, together with Urban Unity, and are also leading stakeholder discussions, prior to lodgement of the application. Urbis is an independent consultancy that advises developers, property owners, NGOs, community groups, industry associations and all levels of government. Urban Unity is leading stakeholder engagement discussions in advance of lodging the development for approval with Government.

[URBIS.COM.AU](http://URBIS.COM.AU)

## Find out more...

If you have queries in relation to this project, please contact Kristi Jørgensen of Urban Unity on: **0406 027 365**, or via email at: [westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au).





# What is a solar installation?

## Components of a solar installation:

Each solar panel is made up of silicon-based photovoltaic (PV) cells which convert the light energy from daylight into electrical energy.

Daylight from the sun hits a negatively doped silicon layer which 'excites' electrons, effectively 'removing' them from their atoms. This creates a potential difference between the two layers of silicon and stimulates a flow of electrons. The flow generates Direct Current (DC) electricity. As there are no moving parts, the process happens silently.



### Solar panels

Module cells convert the energy from daylight directly into Direct Current (DC) electricity.



### Cabling

All cabling is weather proofed and securely attached to the structure or buried underground.



### Inverters

The solar modules feed electricity into inverters, which convert the DC power into the AC (Alternating Current) flowing on the local grid network.



### Transformer

From the inverters, the electricity flows to a transformer which 'steps up' the voltage of the electricity to match that of the existing overhead line network.



### Substation

The substation is the on-site point of connection to the grid. From here, a high voltage cable, connects the solar installation to the existing overhead line grid network.



### Local consumption

The electricity is distributed by the local Distribution System Operator (DSO). Local energy consumption take-off will consume some, if not the majority, of the energy generated.

## What are solar panels made of?



### Glass & Cells: Silicon (Si)

Silicon is the largest component of a solar installation, forming both the photovoltaic cells and the anti-reflective glass which protects them. To make the cells, sand is melted using electricity. It is then purified and distilled, formed into 'wafers' and given an anti-reflective silicon nitride coating to maximise light absorption.



### Conductors: Silver (Ag)

The aluminium conductors are plated with silver to protect them from the elements.



### Framing & Conductors: Aluminium (Al)

The horizontal and vertical lines across the panels are screen-printed aluminium conductors. They conduct the electricity produced by the silicon cells to the cabling. The panels are attached to an aluminium framework which quickly dulls to a non-shiny finish. The framework has galvanised screwed-in foundations, it is quick to install, very strong and can be removed easily to allow the ground to be fully restored once the plant is decommissioned.



### Why blue?

The cell coating is blue in order to absorb light most efficiently. Black would be even more absorbent, but it gets hotter and the technology works best at cooler temperatures.

## Components of a solar installation

## Site zoning

Fencing examples



Solar photovoltaic panels



Sheep grazing



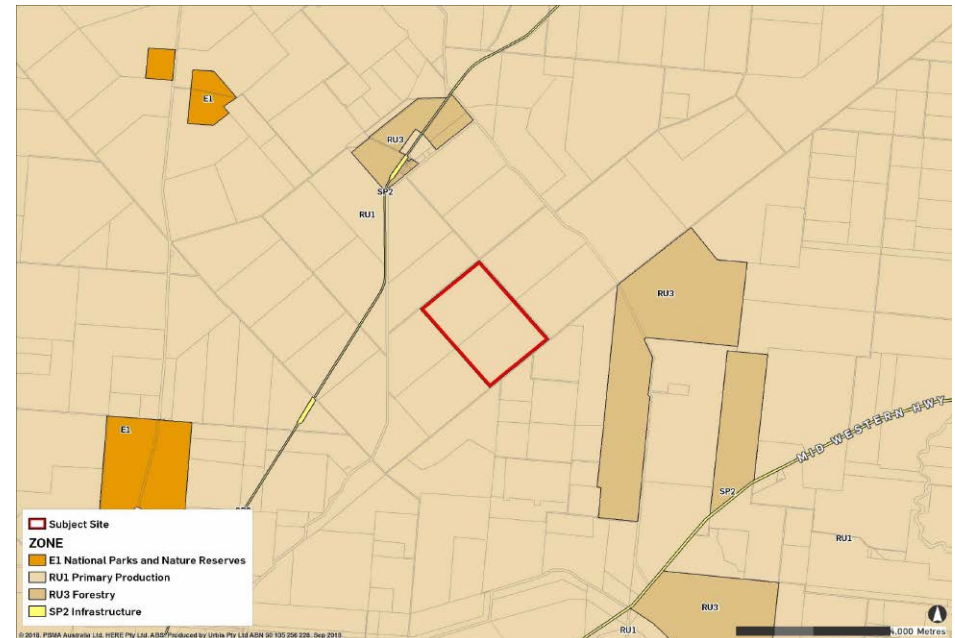
Sub station



Inverters and transformers



Typical access track



The development is located within the RU1 - Primary Production Zone under the Bland Local Environment Plan (2011). The development is permissible with consent under clause 34(1) of the Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) as a State Significant Development (SSD). The proposed solar installation complies with the objectives of this zoning by providing an alternative use of the land. The construction methods implemented will not compromise the agricultural viability of the land.

At the end of the project's lifecycle (typically 25/30 years) all infrastructure will be removed and the site will be able to return to its previous agricultural use with only minor remediation works.



# Site location



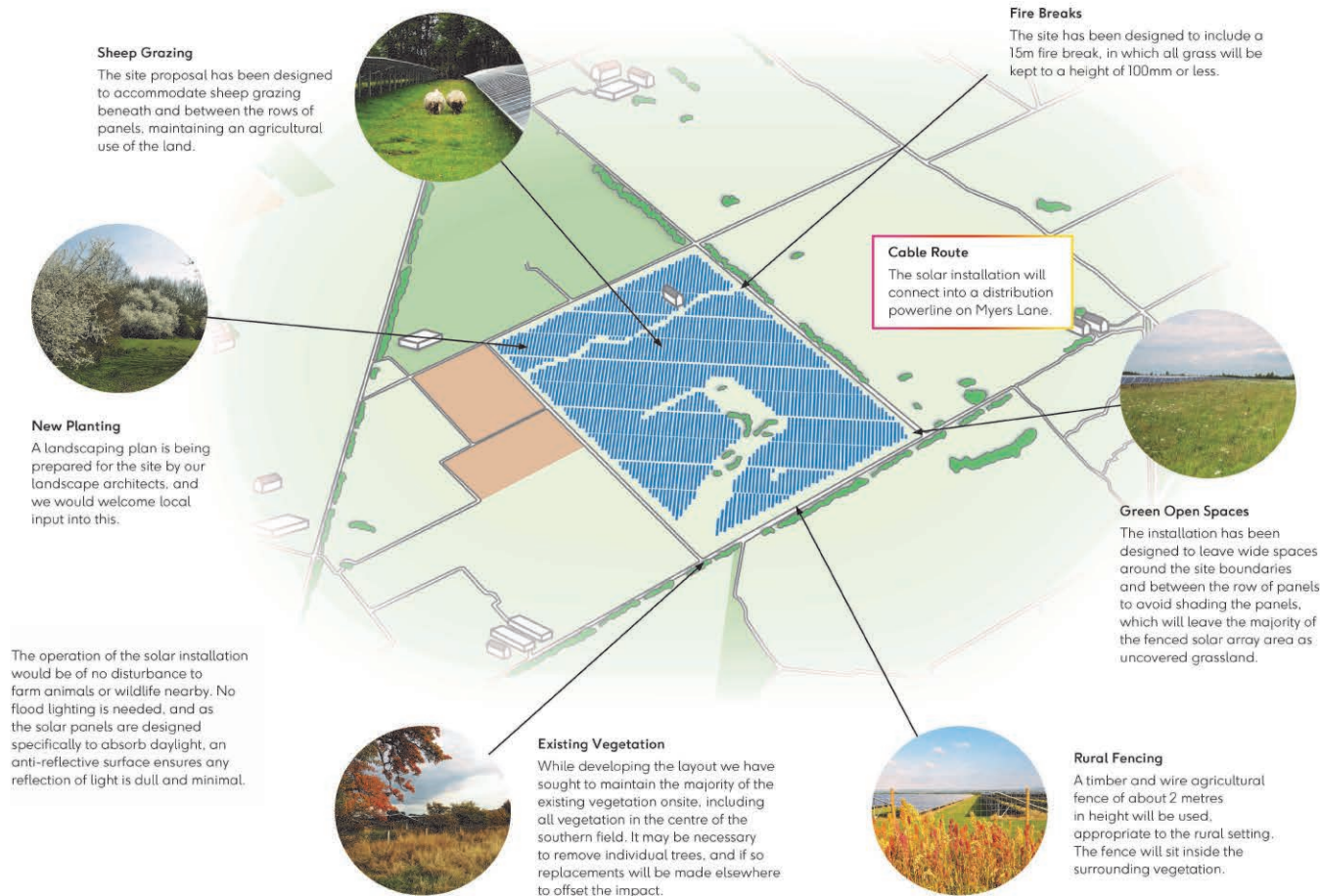
## Site features

### Proposed solar installation at 228-230 Blands Lane, West Wyalong NSW

Lightsource BP has developed an indicative site layout that takes into account the following:

- Retention of existing vegetation where practicable, including vegetation in the middle of the site
- Optimised layout of the solar panels for energy generation
- Dual production function for energy generation and ongoing agricultural use in the form of sheep grazing
- Appropriate and logical access to the solar panels for maintenance purposes, and
- Requirements from Government agencies, including the Rural Fire Service (RFS).

A series of environmental assessments are currently being undertaken by qualified consultants, led by Urbis. The results and recommendations of these surveys, together with feedback from the community, will further inform layout design and the development of a landscape plan to provide visual screening and habitat enhancements.





# Solar and agriculture

## Why agricultural land is suitable for solar:

The production of electricity from the sun's energy introduces another option for production on farm land. However, this doesn't have to be to the exclusion of more traditional agricultural production. Solar farms can be designed to accommodate ongoing agricultural activities, such as the grazing of small livestock. Lightsource BP has developed sites that accommodate sheep, geese and free range chicken grazing. We have also worked with local bee keepers to introduce bee hives to a number of our sites in the UK.

The proposed solar farm in West Wyalong is being specifically designed to accommodate sheep grazing beneath and between the rows of panels. We have found this to be a mutually beneficial arrangement – with the sheep maintaining grass lengths and the panels providing the sheep with shelter from the elements – with sheep often found sitting in the shade of the panels on hot days.

### No disturbance to animals

The solar panels are raised above the ground which allows sheep to graze beneath the arrays of panels.

### Open grassland

The modules on a solar farm are mounted on a framework and raised above the ground. So the majority of the land is still available for grazing by small livestock.

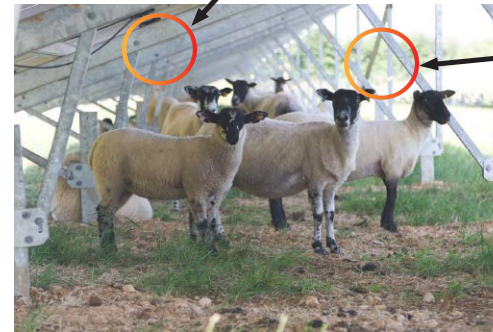
### 4-8 sheep per hectare

Generally, between 4 and 8 sheep can graze per hectare. This is similar to stocking rates on conventional grassland.



### Raised panels

As the sunlight tracks across the farm throughout the day, the panels create a similar shading effect to a tree. The area underneath the panels is still grassy and accessible to grazing animals.



### Shelter

The solar panels create valuable areas of shelter during harsh weather conditions and can provide comfort and cover from predators.

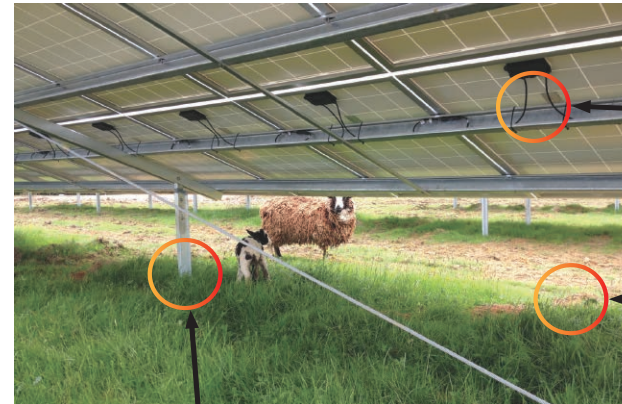


### Safe

All cabling is weatherproofed and attached securely to the structure, out of the reach of animals.

### Minimal ground cover

The framework is ordinarily anchored by pile-driven legs. There is no mass concrete surface, so the infrastructure on a solar farm typically disturbs less than 5% of the ground surface.



### Land reinstated

At the end of the life of the solar farm, the steel foundations are pulled out of the ground and the land returned to its former condition.



# Ecological factors



**Lightsource BP is dedicated to supporting the local environment, so as part of our selection process for every single site, we conduct thorough checks for flora and fauna.**

An ecological survey has been undertaken of the subject site. Excluding the forest and woodland areas, the majority of the subject site consists of agricultural land which has low ecological value (with the exception of habitat trees located on site). Two threatened fauna species were identified on site, being the:

- Grey-crowned Babbler - this species is listed as vulnerable under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act). Babbler groups were identified foraging on site.
- Painted Honeyeater - this species is listed as vulnerable under the BC Act and under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). Birds were identified foraging in mistletoe in woodland areas along the road reserves of Myers Lane and Gordons Lane.

The native vegetation comprises five plant community types. These comprised two non-listed types and three Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) as follows:

- Belah woodland - found on alluvial plains and low rises in the central NSW wheatbelt. This vegetation is not listed under the BC Act or the EPBC Act. It occurs in small patches in the southern lot and is extensive along the Myers Lane easement.
- Dwyer's Red Gum - White Cypress Pine - Currawang - shrubby woodland mainly in the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion. This vegetation is not listed under the BC Act or the EPBC Act. It occurs in small patches in the northern lot around the old homestead area and along the northern boundary.

- Blue Mallee - Bull Mallee - Green Mallee - very tall shrubland of the West Wyalong region. This vegetation is listed as 'critically endangered' under the BC Act in the NSW. It occurs in small patches and is extensive along the southern and western easements.
- Western Grey Box - tall grassy woodland on alluvial loam and clay soils in the NSW South Western Slopes and Riverina Bioregions. This vegetation is listed as 'endangered' under the BC Act and the EPBC Act. One small 0.5ha patch occurs on site.
- Weeping Myall - open woodland of the Riverina Bioregion and NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion. This vegetation is listed as 'endangered' under the BC Act and the EPBC Act. This community is extensive along the southern easement and in the south-east corner near the powerline.

As the concept layout is further developed, mitigation methods will be investigated and agreed with Government. Mitigation is likely to include:

- avoid critical life cycle events such as breeding or nursing for species by timing works on site appropriately
- implement clearing protocols including pre-clearing surveys and staged clearing for any vegetation removal
- relocation of habitat features from within the development site where possible
- avoid noise encroachment on adjacent habitats during construction
- fencing to control animal and vehicle interactions.

## Attachment D

FAQ's available at the drop-in session

# Frequently Asked Questions

Proposed Solar Installation at 228-230 Blands Lane, West Wyalong NSW

## Visual impact and noise amenity

### 1. How will the solar installation be visually screened from the roads and adjoining properties?

The site designed include new native planting along boundaries to help screen and filter views of the proposed solar installation. To make sure the site meets the standards of the NSW Government, we'll also be implementing screen planning before the solar installation is connected.

We're including visual analysis in our development application, and this will show how the growth of the vegetation screening will progress over time. This will be publicly notified by the NSW Government as part of the development application.

### 2. Will the solar installation be visible from the nearby towns of West Wyalong or Wyalong?

We've made sure that the proposed site will not be visible from nearby towns, which means that the solar installation will have very little impact on any nearby residents.

### 3. Why are solar installations needed in Australia?

The Federal Government, and the NSW Government too, have both been clear that their strategic intent is to increase the amount of renewable energy produced in Australia, and to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, with the intent to increase the sustainability, and ultimately overall liveability, of Australia. As solar installations are one of the most effective and cost-effective sources of renewable power, they line up nicely with the governments' intentions.

### 4. Are solar installations noisy?

As solar is a largely passive technology, the installations create very little noise, and all Lightsource BP installations are designed and constructed in complete compliance with the Australian Noise Emission guidelines.

While the site is under construction, there will probably be some noise. However, this will only be short-term and will also be in compliance with Australian Noise Emission guidelines.

### 5. Will the solar installations result in substantial glare?

Solar panels in themselves do not create any adverse glare impacts, as they are made with a non-reflective coating to increase the efficiency. Light bouncing off panels means less light being converted into electricity, so minimising glare is important. We've carefully designed this solar installation to minimise any potential for glare to surrounding areas, and have included border vegetation screening to further reduce the possibility.

## Solar installation use within a production zone

### 6. Why are solar installations allowed within this zone?

Our proposal for the development aligns with the objectives of the production zone, because it provides for an alternative use of land. This is due to the fact that the nature of solar installations allows for certain agricultural uses (such as sheep grazing) to continue on site during the life of the solar installation. As well as this, once the project has reached the end of its lifecycle, the land can be returned to its previous agricultural uses with only minor remediation works.

Under the Bland Local Environment Plan, laid out in 2011, solar installations are allowed within this zone. This is due to the fact that the Infrastructure State Environment Planning Policy classes the installation as a State Significant Development, and so the NSW Government can give their consent to the installation being built in this zone.

## Flora and fauna protection

### 7. What is being done to minimise impact to native ecology?

We've undertaken a thorough ecological survey on this site, which has concluded that, excluding the woodland and forest areas, the site has relatively low ecological value due to its agricultural use. As we further develop the designs for the site, we'll work with the government to agree on various methods to protect any identified flora and fauna. These mitigation methods are likely to include relocation of habitat features from within the development site where possible, fencing to protect animals from interactions with vehicles, and planning measures to avoid unnecessary noise which could impact adjacent habitats.

## Traffic safety

### 9. How will traffic be managed through construction and after the solar installation has been constructed?

We'll be preparing a Construction Management Plan before construction starts on the solar installation – this will address any traffic measures required, both temporary and permanent. These measures may include temporary seals on local roads to assist vehicle loading and dust management, and the report will include specific details on how traffic entering and exiting the site will be managed.

We're not expecting that this site will have any major long-term traffic impact given the nature of the proposed development, with no permanent on-site staff, and maintenance visits only a couple of times a month.

## Bushfire risk

### 9. How does the solar installation respond to bushfire concerns?

The solar panels intended for use on this site are designed and made using the most up-to-date technologies and processes. Internationally, solar installations have become

increasingly popular over the past decade, and there is no evidence whatsoever to indicate that solar installations have any impact on the risk of bushfires.

Our project team is consulting with the Country Fire Association (CFA) to prepare a collaborative safety assessment, which will insure that a clear plan exists in the event of an emergency.

## Flooding and drainage

### 10. Will the solar installation increase the incidence of flooding?

In general, as solar is a minimally invasive technology, installations create very little disturbance on the land beneath them, and allow for natural flow of water and drainage.

We're preparing A flood and drainage assessment as part of our application, and this report will identify various design parameters to ensure there are no significant flooding impacts as a result of the proposed solar installation.

## Consultation

### 11. What is being done to notify the public and provide a consultation period?

As with all our solar installations across the world, we want to make sure that this solar installation is an asset to the local community. To achieve this, we're undertaking a voluntary consultation period to ensure the public are notified of the proposal, and clear on the application process and project timeframes.

During this consultation period, we're taking part in a range of consultation activities. These include the distribution of information leaflets to residents near the proposed site, one-on meetings with nominated key stakeholders including interest and land care groups, and a publicly notified community drop-in session. Our project team are also available to address any direct queries in relation to the proposal.

## Find out more...

If you have queries in relation to this project, please contact Kristi Jørgensen of Urban Unity on **0406 027 365** or via email on [westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au).

## Attachment E

Community response form



# Community responses to West Wyalong solar installation, NSW

Can you please indicate your support for the project, being:

☐ supportive ☐ unsupportive ☐ neutral ☐ undecided

Are there any issues that concern you with regards to the proposed solar installation?

---

---

---

---

---

What aspects of the solar installation project do you like?

---

---

---

---

---

Is there any additional information you would like to provide the project team in relation to the site or project?

---

---

---

If you would like to provide your responses at a later time, please send them to the project team at:  
[westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au) by 15 November 2018.

## Attachment F

### Media Release

## Lightsource BP Puts Solar Proposal to Local Community in Wyalong, NSW

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, Lightsource BP hosted a community information event in West Wyalong, to outline their proposal to fund, develop and operate a 248MW solar installation on an approximately 560-hectare block of land at 228-230 Blands Lane, Wyalong NSW 2671.

Aided by planning consultancy firm Urbis, Lightsource BP are progressing the State Significant Development Application to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, while engagement firm Urban Unity are leading stakeholder and community discussions, prior to lodgement of the application. Lightsource BP and Urban Unity invited residents and interested stakeholders from the surrounding area to attend the community information event. The event was held to encourage residents and interested parties to discuss the planning proposal with members of the Lightsource BP, Urban Unity and Urbis teams, and to provide more information about the importance of solar in general, and of this proposed project in particular.

The event was well attended by interested community members keen to understand more about the proposal. The overall sentiment displayed was very positive, showing a keen appetite from the community for economic investment in the area. The event also presented an opportunity to start building partnerships with key stakeholders in the region, ensuring that the solar installation has the ability to bring multifaceted benefit to the Bland Shire.

The proposed solar installation would generate clean and renewable energy that would power 85,572 local homes, saving 420,346 tonnes of carbon emissions every year, the equivalent of 152,101 cars off the roads. The construction of the proposed installation would also create around 350 skilled construction jobs in the region, as well as three on-going roles.

The site is currently used for crops, and the solar installation is being specifically designed to preserve the land for agricultural co-use alongside solar energy generation through sheep grazing. Lightsource BP solar installations are also optimal sites for bee keeping, which may be an additional co-use for the land in the future. The project team has engaged a number of environmental assessments, and the recommendation of these together with feedback from the local community, will help to shape the final design of the proposal.

Adam Pegg, Country Manager, Australia at Lightsource BP said:

“We want to ensure that local communities in Wyalong and surrounds are informed of our plans to develop the project, and so we were thrilled to meet so many local businesses and residents at the community information event. In addition to gaining feedback from local communities, we feel it was very important to provide a forum to give residents the opportunity to ask any questions they may have about the project or solar energy in general.”







Residents can obtain further information on the project, at any time, by getting in touch with the Lightsource BP and Urbis project team by calling Kristi Jorgensen on 0406 027 365, or emailing [westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au).



## Attachment G

West Wyalong Advocate article

# Lightsource BP shines light on solar proposal

**Lightsource BP has hosted a community information event in West Wyalong to outline their proposal to fund, develop and operate a 248MW solar installation on an approximately 560-hectare block of land at 228-230 Blands Lane, Wyalong.**

Aided by planning consultancy firm Urbis, Lightsource BP are progressing the State Significant Development Application to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, while engagement firm Urban Unity are leading stakeholder and community discussions, prior to lodgement of the application.

Lightsource BP and Urban Unity invited residents and interested stakeholders from the surrounding area to attend the community information event, held to encourage residents and interested parties to discuss the planning proposal with members of the planning teams and to provide more information about the importance of solar in general, and of this proposed project in particular.

The event was well attended by interested community members keen to understand more about the proposal.

The overall sentiment displayed was very positive, showing a keen appetite from the community for economic investment in the area.

The event also presented an opportunity to start building partnerships with key stakeholders in the region, ensuring the solar installation has the ability to bring multifaceted benefit to the Bland Shire.

The proposed solar installation would generate clean and renewable energy that would

power 85,572 local homes, saving 420,346 tonnes of carbon emissions every year, the equivalent of 152,101 cars off the roads.

The construction of the proposed installation would also create around 350 skilled construction jobs in the region, as well as three on-going roles.

The site is currently used for crops and the solar installation is being specifically designed to preserve the land for agricultural co-use alongside solar energy generation through sheep grazing.

Lightsource BP solar installations are also optimal sites for bee keeping, which may be an additional co-use for the land in the future.

The project team has engaged a number of environmental assessments and the recommendation of these, together with feedback from the local community, will help to shape the final design of the proposal.

Lightsource BP Country Manager, Australia, Adam Pegg, said they wanted to ensure the local communities in Wyalong and surrounds are informed of their plans to develop the project.



"We were thrilled to meet so many local businesses and residents at the community information event.

"In addition to gaining feedback from local communities, we feel it was very important to provide a forum to give residents the opportunity to ask any questions they may have about the project or solar energy in general," he said.

Residents can obtain further information on the project, at any time, by getting in touch with the Lightsource BP and Urbis project team by calling Kristi Jorgensen on 0406 027 365, or emailing [westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au](mailto:westwyalongsolarfarm@urbis.com.au)

## Attachment H

Presentation to Bland Shire Council



# Lightsource BP

October 2018

# Capability Overview

Lightsource BP is a global leader in the development, financing and long-term operation of solar photovoltaic (PV) power projects. Lightsource operates the largest portfolio of utility scale solar in Europe with 1.9GW under management (1.3GW developed in-house) and has a 6GW global development pipeline across Europe, Middle East, Asia, North America and Australia. The company's proven track-record is well known within the global solar industry, having delivered numerous award-winning projects that are recognised as pioneering, innovative and best-in-class.

In January 2018, BP acquired a 43% stake in the company forming a major strategic partnership, bringing Lightsource's solar development and management experience together with BP's global scale, relationships and trading capabilities to drive further growth across the world. This partnership strengthens the company's expansion beyond Europe as it strives to become the global market leader in the solar development and Build-Own-Operate space. Furthermore, it has enhanced Lightsource BP's recent entry into Australia given it is an area of strategic importance for BP.



**\$3 billion**

deployed into solar assets  
since 2011.



**2 GW**

operated of which 1.3GW  
developed in-house.



**13**

offices across four continents,  
continuing growth strategy.



**43%**

owned by BP.



# Delivering Drinking Water To London

lightsource bp

We provided £9m of funding to deliver Europe's largest floating solar



- **Capacity:** 6.3MWp
- **Size:** 57,500m<sup>2</sup>
- **Panels:** 23,046
- **Module Capacity:** 275Wp

- **Floats:** 61,721
- **Anchors:** 177
- **Construction Cost:** £6.5million

Lightsource BP, advancing solar





# Overcoming Network Complexities

lightsourcebp

In 2015 we constructed one of the first private 132kv substation in the UK



- Location: Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom
- Solar Site Capacity: 50 MWp
- Land Area: 260 acres

Lightsource BP, advancing solar





# India Investment With UKCI

lightsource bp

Awarded by the Indian State in 2016, through a competitive auction



- Solar Capacity: 50 MW (AC), 60 – 65MW (DC)
- PPA: PPA signed with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)

Lightsource BP, advancing solar





# Corporate Power: Mid Kansas Electric Company

lightsource bp

25 year power purchase agreement, awarded in January 2018



- Solar Capacity: 28MWp
- Land Area: 241 acres
- Annual MWh: 55,500

Lightsource BP, advancing solar





# Corporate Power For Bentley Motors

20,000 solar PV panels across 3.45 hectares of roof space

lightsource bp



- Solar Capacity: 5.3MWp
- Funding: £5.5m
- On-site Demand: 15% annual demand (40% summer demand)

Lightsource BP, advancing solar





# Airport Power By Solar Private Wire

Meeting almost 30% of annual demand, reducing Opex

lightsource bp



- Solar Capacity: 4.84 MWp
- PPA Term: 25 year
- Funding: £4.8m

Lightsource BP, advancing solar



# West Wyalong Solar Farm

## STATISTICS



**567** hectares of land



**525,433MWh**  
(megawatt hours) of electricity  
supplied per year



Equivalent to the energy needs of over  
**87,572** houses



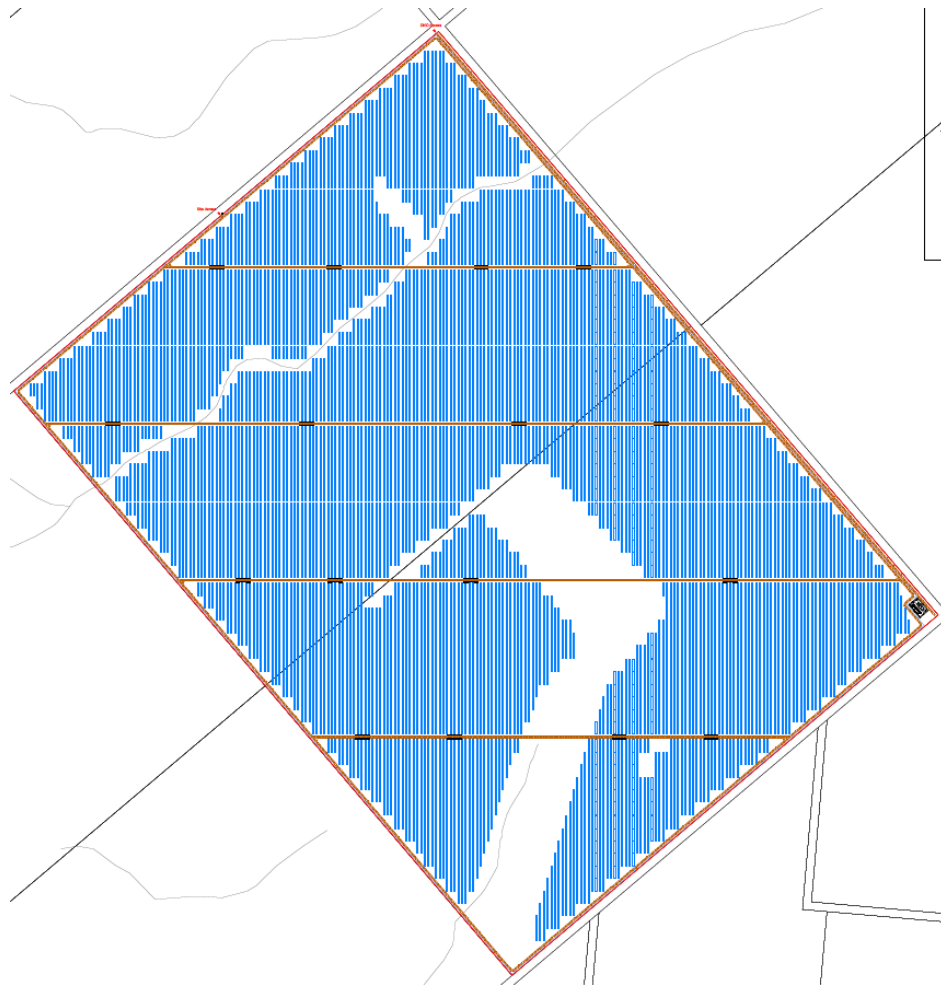
**420,346** tonnes of carbon emissions  
saved, equivalent to taking over  
**152,101** cars off the road



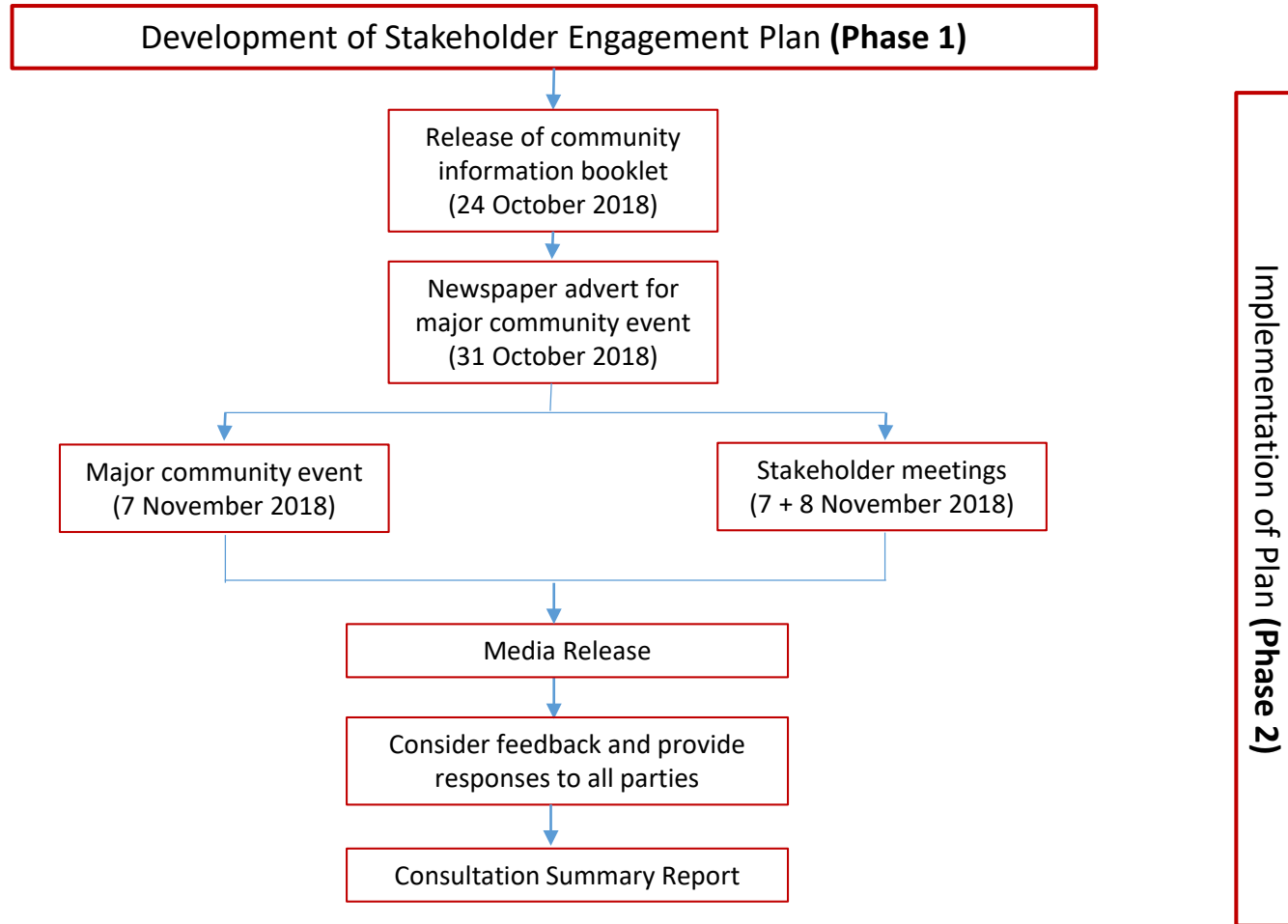
**350** construction  
jobs brought to the  
region



**3** skilled on-going roles

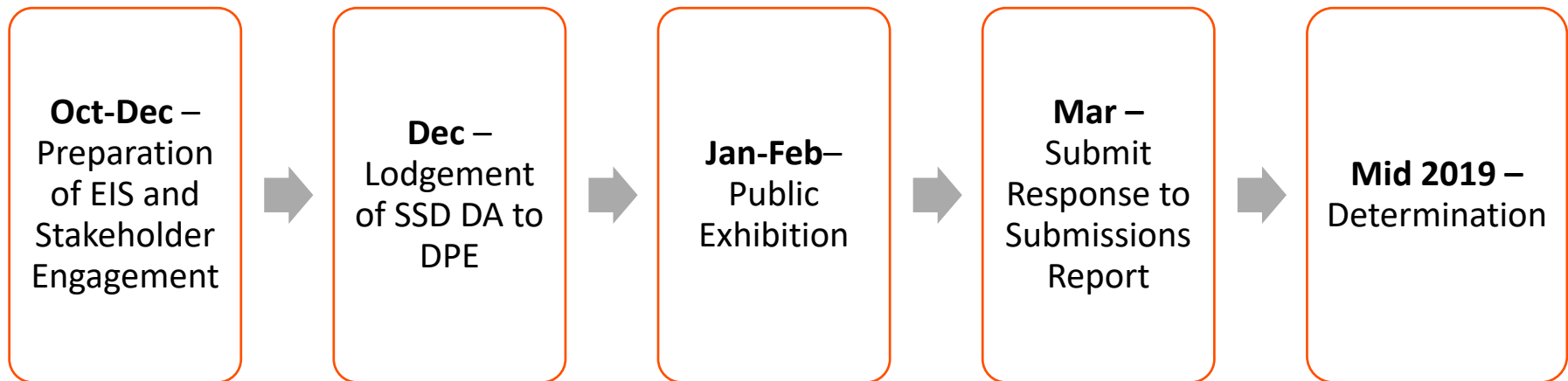


# Stakeholder Engagement Process





# Planning Timeline and Next Steps



## Attachment I

NSW FFS and project team – Record of Meeting

## Meeting Record - West Wyalong Solar Installation

### Lightsource BP + NSW Free Flight Society

**Date** 7 November 2018  
**Location** West Wyalong Services and Citizens Club  
**Attendees**

Name	Role + organisation
Terry Bond	President - NSW FFS
Adam Pegg	Head of Country - Lightsource BP
Penny Laurenson	Head of Planning - Lightsource BP
Polly Baranco	Senior Business Development Manager - Lightsource BP
Luis Esteban	Principal Engineer, Australia - Lightsource BP
Charlotte Kitchin	Project Developer - Lightsource BP
Clare Brown	Director - Urbis
Kristi Jørgensen	Director - Urban Unity

#### Items discussed:

##### General

- Introduction provided by A Pegg:
  - West Wyalong solar installation is a significant project for Lightsource BP (LSBP)
  - LSBP has a long term interest in the area, and want to be good neighbours
  - Committed to working with the stakeholders that have an interest in the project

##### Project discussion

- Potential for thermal activity
  - NSW FFS have concerns that heat may be generated from the panels which could affect the flying of their craft
  - Craft flight is affected by heat
  - Craft fly generally at 140m as an average - can climb significantly higher
  - NSW FFS has members who are scientists who are providing advice - **Action: Luis + NSW FFS member/s to meet to discuss further in w/c 12 November 2018**

LSBP comments:

- The energy coming in to the site, from the sun, will remain the same – there will be no increased energy input.
- Panels operate best when cool, and therefore they dissipate heat at a faster rate than features such as grassed earth or rock, which release heat over a longer period of time
- Some increase in temperature may occur during the day up to 10m around the panels when compared to ambient temperature around farmland
- LSBP's Principal Engineer (Luis) considers that beyond 10m no temperature increase is generally observed
- Very few studies have been done on this to date
- Those that have been done are mostly based on urban conditions rather than rural
- The site will have some perimeter planting to provide visual screening and buffering to adjacent land - **Action: LSBP to review location of perimeter planting and will consider increasing it**
- Setbacks to the solar array have been applied to the proposal (15m on western boundary) - **Action: LSBP will review the setbacks in response to NSW FFS concern**
- Site Access
  - At times craft may descend in the land covered by the proposal
  - Craft will need to be retrieved for NSW FFS
  - Incidence of craft entering the site is generally low

LSBP comments:

- The site will be secure
- 2m high fencing and CCTV is proposed
- A site manager will be appointed once the solar installation is in operation
- NSW FFS will be provided with contact details to report any craft that land within the fenced solar farm
- Health and safety training is required to access the site and therefore the site manager will be the only person able to retrieve craft on behalf of the NSW FFS
- LS BP is committed to using the local employment base where possible and it is likely that the site manager will be on the site regularly undertaking operations and maintenance (O&M)tasks
- An O&M staff member can be made available for craft retrieval for major NSW FFS annual event/s
- Insurance liability
  - In the event the craft cause damage in the site - query over liability

LSBP comments:

- Liability for any accidental damage to solar panels will be borne by LSBP
- Considered low risk given incidence rate and weight of craft
- No concern raised by LSBP

Other business

- **Action: NSW FFS to provide annual calendar of events to LSBP**
- **Action: Kristi to provide newsletter and FAQ`s electronically for distribution to members.**

## Attachment J

NSW FFS letter of no objection





## The New South Wales Free Flight Society Inc.

From;  
Terry Bond  
6 Studley Court  
Narellan NSW 2567

To;  
Polly Baranco  
Senior Business Development Manager  
Lightsourcebp  
401 Collins Street  
Melbourne 3000.

The following items were discussed at various meetings and resolved;

Supervised access to the solar farm in the event of a model landing in the farm,  
Each organisation to cover its own insurance in the event of such a landing,  
The relocation of the solar farm boundary 100 metres from the eastern flying field fence.

As a direct result of successful negotiations with lightsourcebp and the New South Wales Free Flight Society, this society has no objection to the solar farm construction and location.

If any further information is required, please advise.

Terry Bond  
President NSWFFS  
28 Nov 2018