

17 January 2020

Mr Rob Beckett
Planner
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Rob

MAXWELL SOLAR FARM (SSD-9820)

I refer to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) exhibited on the NSW Planning, Industry & Environment website in relation to the proposed development of the Maxwell Solar Farm (the Project).

The Project would be located on rehabilitated open cut mine land within the Maxwell Infrastructure site at Muswellbrook, NSW, with an installed capacity of approximately 25MW (AC). The Project would supply electricity to the Maxwell Infrastructure site and/or the Maxwell Underground site and/or the National Energy Market (NEM).

Hunter New England Local Health District has reviewed the EIS, focussing on the management of issues which may have an impact on public health, and would like to provide the following comments:

Potable Water

The EIS states that approximately 150kL of potable water would be required for the workers on site, but does not detail specifically the source of this water. The EIS also mentions the gathering of rainwater from the office roof with tank storage on site, and trucking in water when required.

If the site is not connected to a reticulated town water supply, and this rainwater and carted water are the sources of the potable water requirements, then the applicant must demonstrate that the drinking water supplied at the premises will consistently meet the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2011* and any subsequent amendments of the Guidelines.

The *Public Health Act 2010* and the *Public Health Regulation 2012* require drinking water suppliers to:

- have a quality assurance program (QAP) that complies with the Regulation
- comply with (i.e. implement) their QAP
- provide a copy of the QAP to the local Public Health Unit
- keep records relating to managing the safety of their drinking water supply.

Hunter New England Local Health District
ABN 63 598 010 203

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The proponent is encouraged to contact Hunter New England Local Health District with respect to developing a Quality Assurance Program.

The Quality Assurance Program for the site should be submitted to this office at the address below prior to commencement of use. Further information and templates can be found at:
<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/water/Pages/private-supplies.aspx>.

If you require any further information please feel free to contact Carolyn Herlihy, Environmental Health Officer on (02) 4924 6477.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'David Durrheim', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Dr David Durrheim
Director - Health Protection
Hunter New England Population Health