

Lindsey Blecher

From: Nicole Brewer
Sent: Tuesday, 1 December 2020 4:24 PM
To: Lindsey Blecher; Steve Barry
Cc: Mike Young (DPE-DASP)
Subject: RE: Bonshaw Solar Farm (SSD 9438)

Lindsay / Steve

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Commission’s proposed edits to the recommended conditions of consent for the Bonshaw Solar Farm.

The Department provides the following comment:

Proposed change	Department comment
Cover page - insertion of power	Department accepts this change. To note it was not included in the recent Walla Walla Solar Farm consent.
Schedule 3 condition 6 – rewording condition from “No heavy vehicle..” to “Heavy vehicles must not”	Department accepts this change.
Schedule 3 condition 18 – removing inaudible works	Department accepts this change.
Schedule 3 new condition 33 for Decommission and Rehabilitation Plan	Department accepts this change but notes the concerns about this condition raised on previous solar projects.
Schedule 3 existing condition 33 - Query regarding the timing of 18 months following cessation of operations for achieving the rehabilitation objectives.	The Department notes that the definition of the cessation of operations being a continuous period of 12 months of the development not operating allows for an appropriate period to ensure there are not other contributing factors (such as a transmission line or maintenance issue) that would inadvertently trigger inclusion as cessation of operation. Once the development has not operated for a period of 12 months and confirmed that operation has ceased, the applicant then has an appropriate period of time (18 months) to decommission, remove infrastructure and rehabilitate the site to achieve the rehabilitation objectives.
Schedule 3 existing condition 33 – addition of all underground cabling to be removed.	Department accepts this change. However, the Department notes that the existing objective covers this element and the applicant in this instance has not offered this (as was the case for other recent solar farms) and states in the EIS that it intends to remove above ground infrastructure and leave underground infrastructure in situ to minimise the risk of soil erosion. The Department suggests in this instance the objective remains as is. If the Commission is minded to make the proposed change then the Department suggests that the objective for solar farm infrastructure be amended to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise

- All underground cabling is to be **removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if anything requires further clarification.

Regards

Nicole

Nicole Brewer

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From: Lindsey Blecher <lindsey.blecher@ipcn.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 1 December 2020 8:15 AM
To: Nicole Brewer <nicole.brewer@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: Mike Young (DPE-DASP) <Mike.Young@planning.nsw.gov.au>; Javier Canon <Javier.Canon@planning.nsw.gov.au>; Steve Barry <Stephen.Barry@ipcn.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Bonshaw Solar Farm (SSD 9438)

Dear Ms Brewer

I am writing in regards to Bonshaw Solar Farm (SSD 9438), which is currently before the Commission for determination.

The Commission has reviewed the Department's recommended Instrument of Consent and has made edits in the attached document. Could the Department please confirm by reply to this email that it is satisfied with the Commission's changes?

The Commission also requests clarification on the Department's proposed condition regarding decommissioning and rehabilitation (Condition 34 in the attached document). The condition requires the Applicant to rehabilitate the site within 18 months of the cessation of operations, and cessation of operations is given the definition "Operation of the development has ceased for a continuous period of 12 months". The total time available to the Applicant to rehabilitate the site would therefore be 30 months from the date on which the operation is first stopped. Could the Department please confirm whether it is the Department's intent for the Applicant to be allowed 30 months for rehabilitation? If this is not the case, could the Department please confirm that it is satisfied with the suggested wording and added note, below:

Within ~~18~~ 6 months of the cessation of operations, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 3.

Note: The reference to 6 months is additional to the 12 month period specified for "cessation of operations".

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Kind Regards,

Lindsey Blecher

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