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Please refer enquiries to: **R Bailey**

Doc ID: 186543

16 January 2024

Mr Cameron Ashe  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Energy, Resources & Industry Assessments  
Department of Planning & Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

[cameron.ashe@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cameron.ashe@dpie.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Cameron

### **Proposed Avonside Solar Farm (SSD-66150459) – Council Input into the SEARs**

Thank you for the invitation for Warrumbungle Shire Council ('WSC') to provide input to the SEARs for the above-mentioned proposed project.

Outlined below are WSC's requirements.

#### **1. Dialogue with Council**

- a) Frequent and ongoing dialogue;
- b) Especially to discuss details pertaining to roads and traffic, Temporary Worker Accommodation, the planning agreement and the other matters raised herein. WSC requests Eco Energy World meet with it prior to commencing assessment studies for the EIS. Council has detailed roads and traffic material to provide.

#### **2. EIS Content**

- a) Council expects the EIS to contain robust, definitive details pertaining to the scope and extent of the project and the likely environmental, social and economic benefits and costs to Warrumbungle LGA residents and ratepayers. Including clear definition as to who reaps the benefits and who bears the costs?
- b) A comprehensive assessment of cumulative impacts given eleven renewable energy projects in Warrumbungle LGA (ten generation and one transmission) and 35 across the CWO REZ.

#### **3. Local Planning Provisions**

- a) Examination of the Warrumbungle Shire LEP, DCP, Land Use Strategy and Community Strategic Plan.

#### **4. Impacts of Traffic on Local Roads**

- a) Full details regarding heavy and OSOM vehicles: the number and size, for what duration;
- b) Full description and transparent details of the assumptions behind the above calculations; Calculations to include deliveries of water, sand, gravel and worker accommodation provisions, etc and which routes to be used;
- c) Full description of proposed road upgrades to be undertaken and funded prior to commencement of construction and make good provisions post construction. Must be clear evidence of close collaboration and agreement with WSC on same;
- d) Full description of proposed road maintenance to be funded throughout life of the project, including before, during and after proposed refurbishments and decommissioning. Must be clear evidence of close collaboration and agreement with WSC on same;
- e) Impacts on local school bus runs and harvest season traffic;
- f) Impacts on 'paper' Crown roads.

#### **5. Water Supply**

- a) How much is required? Full details behind how the quantity is determined;
- b) Source? Licensing status;
- c) If groundwater, what drawdown on bores within 2 kms radius;
- d) Haulage: number of movements during construction, refurbishment and decommissioning phases including routes and truck size.

#### **6. Gravel Supply**

- a) How much is required? Full details behind how the quantity is determined;
- b) Source? Licensing status;
- c) Haulage: number of movements during construction, refurbishment and decommissioning phases including routes and truck size.

#### **7. Sand Supply**

- a) How much is required? Full details behind how the quantity is determined;
- b) Source? Licensing status;
- c) Haulage: number of movements during construction, refurbishment and decommissioning phases including routes and truck size.

#### **8. Solid & Liquid Waste Management**

- a) Full details of types and quantities of solid and liquid waste;
- b) Where waste is to be disposed/recycled? Note: WSC does not have the facilities to accept any project waste.

#### **9. Construction Timetable**

- a) When might construction might begin and full details of which other projects may also be in the construction phase at the same time.

#### **10. Construction Workers**

- a) The number and duration of construction workers. Where to be housed? Full details regarding Temporary Worker Accommodation, including site, design, fire safety, facility security, gatehouse, wet mess, roads to be used by workers, buses to convey workers;
- b) What proportion of workers to be locals? Explanation and rationale for that proportion;
- c) Full details on traineeships and apprenticeships for locals.

### **11. Dark Sky (Siding Springs Observatory)**

- a) Respond in accordance with the Dark Sky Planning Guideline.

### **12. Bushfire Management**

- a) Detailed provisions regarding stop work rules during extreme fire danger periods;
- b) Mandatory firefighting trailers at all construction sites and at the Temporary Worker Accommodation

### **13. Social Impacts: Costs & Benefits**

- a) Impacts on provision of medical services, emergency services (police, ambulance, etc), public amenities, pre-schools, hospitals, recreation facilities, local service suppliers, etc, etc.

### **14. Planning Agreement**

- a) WSC requires a planning agreement to be secured with it by the Developer;
- b) The Key Terms for the planning agreement must be settled between the Parties before the EIS is completed and placed on exhibition.

### **15. Cumulative Impacts: Costs & Benefits**

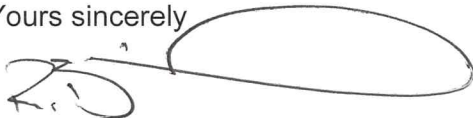
This item might be listed last however is an absolutely critical matter that WSC requires to be comprehensively addressed.

This proposed project is currently one of eleven (ten generation and one transmission) in WSC and one of 35 across the CWO REZ. WSC requires robust and transparent details regarding the impacts of this project, together with the likely cumulative environmental, social and economic impacts arising from its interaction with the nearby Orana WF, Cobbora SF, Sandy Creek SF, Dapper SF, Dunedoo SF, Birriwa SF, Barneys Reef WF and the EnergyCo transmission line.

The EIS is to document full details of likely impacts on Council's road assets, local communities and local traffic. Council requires a complete picture on the likely heavy and light vehicle movements on its roads and who is to pay for the added ongoing road maintenance. There must be demonstrative evidence that such costs will not be a burden to local ratepayers.

If there are any queries in relation to the above, please contact Council on ph 02 6849 2000 or to email [Roger.Bailey@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Roger.Bailey@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au). Council looks forward to a meeting with Eco Energy World as soon as is mutually convenient.

Yours sincerely



**ROGER BAILEY**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**