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Please address all mail to:
The General Manager

Leeanne Ryan
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Please refer enquiries to:

19 October 2023

Ms Nicole Brewer
Director, Energy Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
Level 16, 4 Parramatta Square
GPO Box 39
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

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clay.preshaw@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Brewer

Response to Proposed Birriwa Solar Farm (SSD-29508870) - Exhibition of Amended Application

Thank you for the opportunity for Warrumbungle Shire Council ('Council') to address the proposed Birriwa Solar Farm Amended Application.

Council is encouraged by the commentary in the Amendment Report which appears to indicate the Developer has responded positively to the feedback from the host council, namely Mid-Western Regional Council.

Moving forward, Council makes the following comments.

1. Protection of Local Road Assets

The proposed Amended Project will require upgrades to Barneys Reef Road. Council remains focussed on ensuring that its local road assets, to be impacted by the development, will be protected from deterioration, both over the short and longer term.

Council thus requires more transparency in relation to the traffic consequences of the temporary accommodation (TA) facility. We seek itemised details as to heavy and OSOM vehicles split into project construction, operations and decommissioning, as well as TA construction, operations and decommissioning. Council also requires dialogue with the Developer as to payment of ongoing maintenance costs for said road throughout the life of the project.

It is noted on page 5 there may be a need for the TA facility to be expanded to cater for up to 1,000 people. Council requests further analysis on local road traffic to be carried out at that time to ensure the full impact of additional traffic is accounted for. However, if this is (as mentioned on page 13) referring to the proposed Valley of the Winds Wind

Farm (VOW) can the Developer advise Council if the traffic travelling from the camp to VOW has been recognised in traffic assessments for the VOW project to date?

With the potential need to haul diesel to the TA (page 36) for generators, have truck numbers for fuel cartage been included in the traffic assessment numbers?

2. Gravel and Water Supply, and Sewerage/Wastewater Disposal

In regards to the supply of both gravel and water resources, Council seeks an assurance that all heavy vehicle movements have been accounted for. In addition, Council wishes to know where the gravel is to be sourced. Further to that, limited options have been presented regarding disposal of sewerage and wastewater from the TA. Council seeks more details.

3. Waste Disposal

Council would like to reiterate that WSC is unable to accept any waste materials as a result of the proposed project.

4. Siding Spring Observatory

It has been noted throughout the RTS document (page 7 and 26) that the Siding Spring Observatory has been referred to as Sliding Spring Observatory, this is incorrect, the correct name is Siding Spring Observatory.

Council looks forward to ongoing dialogue with the Developer and DPE to help address all environmental, social and economic costs and benefits associated with the proposed project. Council seeks clear evidence as to how the costs and benefits are allocated.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Bailey', with a large, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**ROGER BAILEY
GENERAL MANAGER**