

Wyalong Solar Farm

Independent Environmental Audit #1

Prepared for Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd

February 2023

Wyalong Solar Farm

Independent Environmental Audit #1

Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd

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February 2023

Version	Date	Prepared by	Approved by	Comments
1	18 January 2023	Wendy Mason/David Bone	David Bone	Draft
2	16 February 2023	Wendy Mason/David Bone	David Bone	Final

Approved by



David Bone

Independent Auditor

16 February 2023

Level 3 175 Scott Street

Newcastle NSW 2300

This report has been prepared in accordance with the brief provided by Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd and has relied upon the information collected at the time and under the conditions specified in the report. All findings, conclusions or recommendations contained in the report are based on the aforementioned circumstances. The report is for the use of Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd and no responsibility will be taken for its use by other parties. Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd may, at its discretion, use the report to inform regulators and the public.

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Independent Audit Declaration


Project name	Wyalong Solar Farm Independent Environmental Audit #1
Consent number	SSD-9564
Description of project	Wyalong Solar Farm
Proponent	Metka EGN (Melbourne) Australia Pty Ltd
Date	26 October 2022

I declare that I have undertaken the Independent Audit and prepared the contents of the attached Independent Audit Report and to the best of my knowledge:

- the audit has been undertaken in accordance with relevant approval condition(s) of consent and in accordance with the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (Department 2020)
- the findings of the audit are reported truthfully, accurately and completely
- I have exercised due diligence and professional judgement in conducting the audit
- I have acted professionally, objectively and in an unbiased manner
- I am not related to any proponent, owner or operator of the project neither as employer, business partner, employee, or by sharing a common employer, having a contractual arrangement outside the audit, or by relationship as spouse, partner, sibling, parent or child
- I do not have any pecuniary interest in the audited project, including where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain or loss to me or spouse, partner, sibling, parent or child
- neither I nor my employer have provided consultancy services for the audited development that were subject to this audit except as otherwise declared to the Department prior to the audit
- I have not accepted, nor intend to accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit (apart from fair payment for auditing services) from any proponent, owner or operator of the project, their employees or any interested party. I have not knowingly allowed, nor intend to allow my colleagues to do so.

Note:

- a) Under Section 10.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) in a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a material respect. The proponent of an approved project must not fail to include information in (or provide information for inclusion in) a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is materially relevant to the monitoring or audit. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, \$1 million and for an individual, \$250,000; and
- b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both).

Name of auditor	David Bone
Signature	
Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Associate Diploma of Applied Science 1986• CENVP #137 Lead Auditor
Company	EMM Consulting Pty Limited
Company address	3/175 Scott Street Newcastle 2300

Executive Summary

This Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) was completed by EMM Consulting to fulfil the requirements of the Development Consent SSD-9564 issued 07/05/2019. Condition 7 of Schedule 4 requires that an IEA be undertaken within 6 months of the commencement of construction. Construction commenced at the site on 9th June 2022.

The objective of the audit was to assess compliance with the SSD-9564 approval in relation to construction of the Project. The audit period for the IEA pre-construction requirement and construction activities from 9 June 2022 to 11 November 2022.

The project site was clearly defined, and the site was well established at the time of the audit, the project had experienced several extreme weather events which have led to construction delays throughout 2022. Due to large rainfall events that occurred 48 hours prior to the audit and in the preceding week before the site inspection, the surrounding Wyalong region was severely flooded. Work on the site was halted as it was not safe to proceed. The site inspection was still completed as vehicle access could still be obtained and office administrative audit was still completed in a safe manner.

The approved project is considered generally compliant with the SSD-9564 conditions (under the limited audit conditions, additional photos of the site were requested (after the flood water had receded) to ensure compliance and correct implementation, management and maintenance of erosion and sediment measures/controls had been addressed after the flood waters had receded.

The management and associated environmental programs in place were found to be adequate in scope and applied in practice by Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd for the stage of the development audited. Administrative correction to be addressed and implemented before the next audit to take place early (~May) 2023.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

EMM Consulting Pty Limited (EMM) was engaged by Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd (Metka) to conduct an independent environmental audit (IEA) of the Wyalong Solar Farm (the Project). The Project incorporates construction of a solar farm and associated infrastructure. The Project operates under State Significant Development Consent (SSD-9564) which was originally granted approval by the Independent Planning Commission on 7th May 2019.

Condition 7 of Schedule 4 of SSD-9564 requires that an IEA be undertaken within 6 months of the commencement of construction, and in accordance with the IAPAR 2020, ongoing thereafter at intervals no greater than 26 weeks during the construction phase (operation phase audits will be undertaken within 26 weeks of commencement of operation and then every three years – unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary). EMM understands that the audit must be conducted within 6 months of the commencement of construction, with the primary focus of the IEA on project pre-construction and establishment activities and environmental compliance tracking.

The Project is situated (Figure 1.1) 7.5 km north east of West Wyalong, New South Wales, (1409 Newell Highway, Wyalong within land parcel Lot 160 DP750615) occupying approximately 160 hectares of land, the Wyalong Solar Farm will generate enough electricity to power 27,000 average Australian homes.

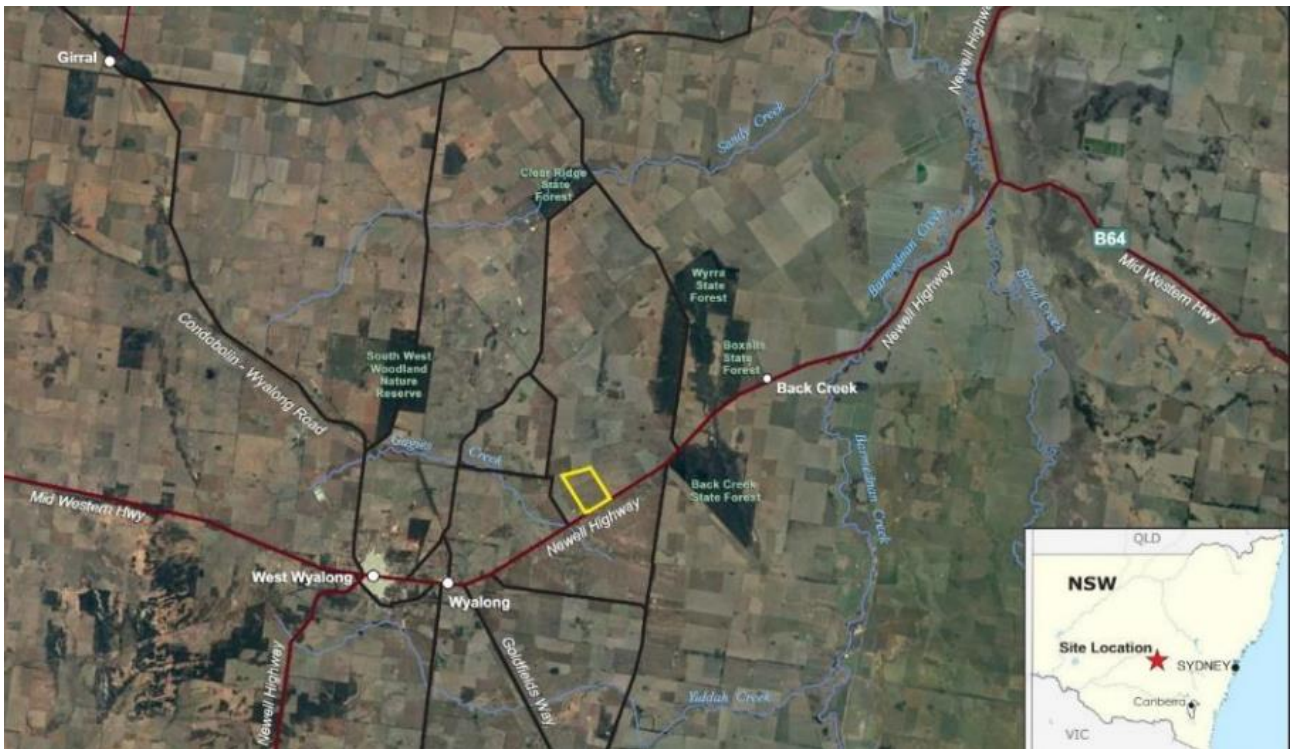


Figure 1.1 Project location

1.2 Audit Team

EMM audit team was lead by the approved lead auditor David Bone. The independent audit declaration has been signed by David Bone and has been attached to the report.

1.3 Audit objectives

The key objective of the independent environmental audit (IEA) is to determine the project's compliance with SSD-9564 conditions relevant to the construction phase of the Project. The independent audit requirements under SSD-9564 are detailed in the following subsections.

Finally, the IEA assesses the overall effectiveness of environmental management of the Project through the site-based component of the audit.

1.4 Audit scope

The audit assesses project compliance with conditions as set out by SSD-9564, targeting the pre-construction and early construction phases of the Project. The specific conditions of consent which will be assessed as part of this audit are listed in the table below.

Table 1.1 Management plans and monitoring programs required by SSD-9564

Condition	Requirement
2 – Schedule 2	Wyalong Solar Farm EIS, including amending documents as listed in the definitions of SSD-9564
5 – Schedule 2	Final Layout Plans
8 – Schedule 2 4 – Schedule 4	Notifications
6 – Schedule 3	Traffic Management Plan
8 – Schedule 3	Landscaping Plan
11 – Schedule 3	Biodiversity Management Plan
18 – Schedule 3	Heritage Management Plan
23 – Schedule 3	Final Hazard Analysis
25 – Schedule 3	Fire Safety Study
30 – Schedule 3	Accommodation and Employment Strategy
1 – Schedule 4	Environmental Management Strategy
2 – Schedule 4 3 – Schedule 4	Update strategies, plans and programmes

The audit also included assessment of post approval and compliance documentation prepared to satisfy the conditions of consent including the implementation of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (and associated sub-plans).

The audit reviewed the environmental performance of the project via assessment of:

- Actual impacts compared to predicted impacts documented in the environmental impact assessment.
- The physical extent of the project in comparison with the approved boundary.
- Incidents, non-compliances and complaints that occurred or were made during the audit period.
- The performance of the project having regard to agency policy and any particular environmental issues identified through consultation carried out during the development of the audit scope.

- Feedback received from the Department, other agencies and stakeholders, including the community, on the environmental performance of the project during the audit period.

1.5 Audit Period

This IEA assessed the environmental performance and compliance status of the Wyalong Solar Farm during the initial construction phase to the date of the inspection 14 November 2022.

2 Audit methodology

The IEA was undertaken in accordance with the requirements as set out by Section 3 of *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), 2020), and following the AS/NZS ISO 19011.2014 – Guidelines for Auditing Management Systems.

The audit scope was developed by the lead auditor, Mr. David Bone and included review of the project approval and all documentation relevant to the operation of the Project.

2.1 Selection and endorsement of audit team

This is an ‘independent’ audit, meaning that the auditor(s) must be endorsed by the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) prior to conducting the audit. The audit teams qualifications, and a statement on their independence from the Project were submitted to DPE and approval was obtained.

DPE Secretary approval of the audit team of Mr David Bone (Lead Auditor) was received by Metka on the 9 November 2022. The endorsement letter is contained in Appendix A.

2.2 Independent Audit Scope development

The independent and endorsed audit team have developed the scope of this IEA in accordance with the NSW Independent Audit – post approval requirements, the conditions of approval as approved by the NSW Minister for Planning and Environment, or delegate have been listed in Appendix D and are used as the basis for this audit.

2.3 Compliance evaluation

The evaluation of compliance of the project was undertaken through several different means, including a desktop review of publicly available documentation, approved plans and monitoring records, site interviews and a site visit. The site visit was undertaken to ensure that compliance with approved plans is being implemented on the ground and that additional evidence is available to ensure ongoing compliance. Site interviews were used to assess that site personnel understand their role in relation to the compliance requirements for the project.

2.4 Site interviews

Information was requested and reviewed prior to arriving on site, to ensure that audit team understood the key environmental elements of the Project before the site visit was undertaken.

Interviews were held on site as part of the audit and included the following staff:

- Site Manager – Kane Williams
- HSE Advisor – Ryan O’Gorman
- Senior Project Engineer – Xin Cao
- HSE Manager – Bryan Matthews
- Planning and Approvals – John Zammit

Discussion points raised were:

- Project overview
- update on construction to date

- audits conducted
- complaints
- incidents (if any have occurred).

2.5 Site inspections

On the 14 November 2022 a site inspection of the Project, was undertaken. The period before the site inspection was planned to take place, a large rain event occurred flooding the Wyalong Region. Work on the site was halted, however it was still considered safe to proceed with a visual site inspection and paper work was inspected from the site office. The audit team was escorted at all times by site representatives.

Those involved in the audit process comprised of:

- Site Manager – Kane Williams
- HSE Advisor - Ryan O’Gorman

Appendix C includes photographs that were taken during the site inspection and additional site photos that have been supplied by site personnel after the water had receded.

2.6 Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with the relevant agencies and stakeholders as advised by DPE to ensure that they were given the opportunity to raise concerns that they wish to have addressed within the IEA process.

The consultation undertaken is listed in Appendix B, responses, where received, have been noted and addressed with the IEA.

2.7 Compliance status descriptors

The audit has been undertaken in consideration of the following compliance status descriptors, in accordance with the requirements as set out by section 3 of *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), 2020):

- **Compliant** – the auditor has collected sufficient verifiable evidence to demonstrate that all elements of the requirement have been complied with within the scope of the audit.
- **Non-compliant** – the auditor has determined that one or more specific elements of the conditions or requirements have not been complied with within the scope of the audit.
- **Not triggered** – a requirement has an activation or timing trigger that has not been met at the time when the audit is undertaken, therefore an assessment of compliance is not relevant.

In addition to the compliance status descriptors, the auditor may make such observations and notes, including identifying any opportunities for improvement, as they see fit in relation to any compliance requirement or any other aspect of the project.

3 Audit findings

3.1 Approvals and documents audited.

The following documents were reviewed to assess compliance against relevant project approval conditions and the operational performance and effectiveness of environmental management measures implemented during the audit period:

- SSD-9564 Development Consent and the Conditions of Approval
- Wyalong Solar Farm State Significant Development Assessment (SSD 9564)
- WSF Environmental Management Strategy Rev A - 25.08.2021 | MYT-AU-PL-PRO-EV-0002
- DPIE letter dated 13.12.2021 Environmental Management Strategy Approval
- WSF Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) - 20.09.2021 | MYT-AU-PL-PRO-EV-0004
- WSF Health & Safety Management Plan – 08.09.2021 | MYT-AU-PL-PRO-HS-0005
- MYTILINOS Contractor Minimum HSE Requirements Rev 3 - 05.09.2022 | MYT-AU-RT-COR-HS-0001
- MYTILINOS Accommodation and Employment Strategy - 06.12.2021 | MYT-AU-PL-PRJ-HS-0033
- MYTILINOS Waste Management Plan - 21.10.2021 | MYT-AU-PL-PRO-EV-0007
- DPIE letter dated 10.12.2021 Accommodation and Employment Strategy Approval
- MYTILINOS Code of conduct – 2019
- Traffic Management Plan for the Construction of Wyalong Solar Farm – 18.01.2022
- DPIE letter dated 02.02.2022 Traffic Management Plan Approval
- Biodiversity Management Plan – Wyalong Solar Farm March 2022
- DPIE Letter dated 04.04.2022 Biodiversity Management Plan Approval
- Landscape Management Plan Wyalong Solar Farm 08.12.2021
- DPIE Letter dated 20.12.2021 Landscape Management Plan Approval
- Cultural Heritage Management Plan – Wyalong Solar Farm December 2021
- DPIE Letter dated 22.12.2021 Cultural Heritage Management Plan Approval
- Wyalong Solar Farm Project website <https://wyalongsolarfarm.com.au/>
- Site induction
- Notification to DPE of final layout plans 08.12.2021.

3.2 Compliance performance

The SSD-9564 Conditions of Approval listed for the project are provided in the appendix.

A total of 112 items were identified as being triggered for this audit where compliance was required to be determined during the audit. These were comprised of:

- SSI 9351535 Conditions of Approval
- Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and sub plans
- of the 112 conditions, a total of 111 were determined to be compliant for this audit period. The one non-compliance is discussed in Section 4.1. The remainder of the conditions are not triggered as they related to the operational stage (or later) of the project and were not triggered for this audit period.

3.3 Summary of agency notices, orders, penalty notices or prosecutions

There were no notices, orders, penalty notices or prosecutions during the audit period.

3.4 Previous audit recommendations

This is the first independent environmental audit that has been triggered and therefore there are no previous recommendations.

3.5 EMS, management plans and compliance documents

The Construction Environmental Management System and sub plans have been developed in accordance with the conditions of consent. Response to submissions were addressed and the plans were approved prior to construction. Compliance documentation has been established and shows correct implementation in accordance with the CEMP and sub plan. No complaints for the project have been received – no register was provided.

3.6 Environmental performance

The plans required for the project were prepared and approved prior to the commencement of the project.

The project was considered to be in general compliance with all conditions that have been triggered at this phase of the project. Although the site was flooded at the time of the inspection it was still evident that the site was well organised and planning for the anticipated rain event had taken place to ensure continuing compliance. Site personnel that were present on site were well aware of the environmental requirements under the conditions of consent and how they related to their role on the project. Signage and fencing clearly delineated heritage areas. Regular environmental inspections (relevant to the construction) had taken place to ensure site compliance.

3.7 Consultation outcomes

The consultation that was undertaken as part of this IEA can be found in Appendix B. All agencies contacted have been listed and the responses provided and addressed.

3.8 Complaints

The Project website provides both a phone number and an email format to make enquiries/complaints regarding the project. No complaints have been received as of 14 November 2022, however the complaints register is not contained on the website. SSD 9564 NCR#1 addresses this issue.

The project team were well aware of their requirement to document all complaints and record the actions taken to adequately address any issued that may arise despite no complaints being received.

3.9 Environmental incidents

No environmental incidents have been recorded at this stage of the project.

3.10 Actual verses predicted environmental impacts

The following key environmental management areas were noted from the approval:

- transport and OSOM deliveries
- landscaping and visual impact
- biodiversity impacts
- Heritage impacts

It was expected that traffic to the site may have been a far great concern than expected. Through a well-managed site and truck fleet, the numbers of deliveries to the site have been half of what was expected for the project. Over size vehicles have been minimal and limited to delivery of crane and substation thus far. No other additional oversized vehicles required. There have been no traffic complaints received. The next over-sized delivery will be the transformer, permits are already in place for transportation.

Actual verses predicted environmental impacts have been considered and calculated accurately, with the exception of the calculation traffic impacts.

At the time of the audit landscaping activities were not required to be completed. Planting of screening plants as per the approved plan are proposed to be planted in the next audit period due to weather conditions becoming more favourable.

Nesting boxes for vegetation that was approved to cleared were established as per the management plans. Vegetation clearing has been limited to the minimum required to construct the project leaving considerable screening plantings along the Newell Highway Frontage, creek lines and boundary areas.

Heritage items were protected in accordance with the approved ACHAR, OzArk who prepared the plans were involved in the salvage and relocation of items. No issues were raised in relation to this aspects of the project and all protective fencing and signage was in place in accordance with the approved plans.

The project site was a greenfield site with a generally flat landform that had been used as a grazing and cropping paddock prior to construction commencing.

3.11 Site interviews

All site personnel were aware of their environmental requirements for their roles. Personnel interviewed during the audit are detailed in Section 3.5.

3.12 Site Inspection

The site inspection was undertaken on the 14 November 2022, a large rain event over the weekend meant that the site was closed due to localised flooded and limited access. The audit was still undertaken, and the audit team was unable to access the site with the Newell Highway being completely closed. Staff who were able to attend the site provided video, drone footage and subsequent photos of the site when flooding subsided a week later. The remote survey of the site has been undertaken in previous times when COVID-19 prevented face to face site attendance and travel. This technique was used in this case also with site staff directed to areas required to be viewed such as the site boundary, site access roads, fenced heritage areas and designated waste areas. The focus of the inspection was to determine the implementation of mitigation measures contained in approved plans.

3.13 Previous Annual Review or Compliance Report recommendations

This was the initial audit for the project, no previous audits had been undertaken and no recommendations made.

3.14 Key strengths

Records were well organised through an online management system and readily available upon request. The project team was also well organised and were aware of their requirements on site. The project had been subject to extreme weather events over the life of the project construction since June 2022 and as a result were undertaking regular wet weather inspections. Additional inspections were also completed prior to a large rain event which ensured that they were well organised and prepared to manage the flood events.

The flexibility of the site team also allowed the audit to be undertaken remotely with a minimum of time wasted in providing the required information.

4 Recommendations

4.1 Non-compliances

Non-compliant areas that have been found as a result of the audit are as follows:

Schedule 4 CoA 8 – Access to information

- Project website contains some of the required information, and needs to be updated to fully comply with the requirements of this condition. The website lists the information that should be accessible, however not all links are active, and some links refer to the approval of the plan rather than the actual plan as required by CoA 4.8 (a). There is no complaints register or compliance reports. As this is the first audit of the project which has been under construction for approximately 5 months some reports, such as this audit report, have not been triggered at the time of the audit.

4.2 Opportunities for improvement

The following observations and opportunities for improvement were identified during the audit.

CoA 3.3c – Accommodation and employment

- Although the accommodation and employment strategies are in place, and that local personnel preferred working at the surrounding mines. Whilst it appears from interviews that regular monitoring and review of the program occurs by the community relations team, at the time of the audit there was no evidence to support that there has been on going monitoring and review of the program as recommended by the accommodation and employment strategy. The auditor recommends that a review of the plan be undertaken to assess its effectiveness as the project receives new construction certificates. This should be evident in monthly management meeting minutes or as a decision point to ensure that all opportunities are explored on a regular basis.

As a general recommendation and in response to the flooding of the site, ensure that all sediment and erosion controls measures, fencing, heritage protection areas, signage and roads are reinstated as soon as possible.

5 Conclusion

The IEA was conducted at the Wyalong Solar Farm, after what was considered an extreme weather event causing catastrophic flooding across a wide area of NSW. Although work on the site had been halted until the flood water receded, it was still deemed safe to conduct the scheduled IEA and complete the office-based assessment of the supporting documentation. The site was partially flooded and inaccessible by road, however from the photos and aerial footage viewed it was still evident that the site was well established, roads were stable and sediment fencing was in place, waste management and environmental compliance measures have been implemented on the site as required.

The project is deemed to be in general compliance considering the conditions under which the audit was undertaken. Additional photos provided by site personnel after the water had receded show that the site was well established, and sediment controls has been restored. The project website needs to be updated with the required information and an NCR has been raised in relation to this.

Despite the above administrative points noted, the site was well organised and all other document management systems were well organised and information could easily be retrieved and provided upon request.

Site personnel when interviewed were fully aware of their requirement on and off site and the key management issues and controls to be implemented. The management of an inhouse fleet of small trucks has reduced the expected volume of road traffic with some materials sourced from on site. The over size dimensional loads are coordinated with external agencies in advance. Vehicle management systems are automated with all trucks recorded on entry and exit from the site.

Even though the site was partially flood at the time of the inspection it was evident that the site access roads where well maintained and clearly delineated. Entry and exit points were clearly signed to ensure the direction flow of traffic was clear and speed signs were evident to ensure compliance on roads within the project.

The induction process addressed the requirements to inform site personnel of the key environmental issues on site such as heritage areas and their requirements if any additional finds are located on site. Heritage areas are clearly delineated within the site with adequate signage to inform site personnel of restricted areas. The project team have a good understanding of the requirements of the consent and site personnel have a high level of understanding of the requirements of the approved plans which they have implement on site.

Throughout the consultation process, no negative points were raised with regards to the project, the Bland Shire Council has even applauded that the project which continued to progress under such appalling weather conditions over the construction period.

Appendix A

NSW Department of Planning and Environment
Secretary's Endorsement

Mr John Zammit
john@bzrenewables.com.au

9 November 2022

Dear Mr Zammit

**Wyalong Solar Farm SSD-9564
Independent Environmental Audit - team approval request**

I refer to your email and attachments dated 8 November 2022 requesting the Secretary's approval of suitably qualified persons to undertake the Independent Environmental Audit (the Audit) and prepare the Audit Report for Wyalong Solar Farm in accordance with Schedule 4 condition 7 of SSD-9564.

The Department of Planning and Environment (the department) has reviewed the nominations and information you have provided and is satisfied that these experts are suitably qualified and experienced. Consequently, in accordance with Schedule 4 condition 7 (b) of SSD-9564 and the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements, I can advise that the Secretary approves the appointment of the below team from EMM Consulting Pty Ltd:

- David Bone - Lead Auditor
- Amanda Weston - Assistant Auditor

Please ensure this correspondence is appended to the Audit Report.

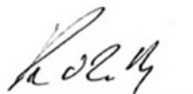
The Audit must be prepared, undertaken and finalised in accordance with the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements and the conditions of SSD-9564. Failure to meet these requirements will require revision and resubmission.

The department reserves the right to request an alternate auditor or audit team for future audits. Please note that this approval of the above audit team is conditional upon them maintaining certification as a lead or principal auditor with a relevant industry body.

Notwithstanding the agreement for the above listed audit team for this Project, each respective project approval or consent requires a request for the agreement to the auditor or audit team be submitted to the department, for consideration of the Secretary. Each request is reviewed and depending on the complexity of future projects, the suitability of a proposed auditor or audit team will be considered.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact me on 0429400261
compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Katrina O'Reilly
Team Leader - Compliance
As nominee of the Planning Secretary

Appendix B

Consultation Register

B.1 Consultation Register

Table B.1 Agency and stakeholder consultation records

Agency/ Stakeholder	Email address	Comments
DPE	katrina.oreilly@planning.nsw.gov.au	Email provided below – Katrina asked that we reach out to TfNSW, BCD, Heritage, RAPs and Land and Water division. Points raised have been addressed through the report.
Environment Protection Authority	info@epa.nsw.gov.au (02) 9995 5000	No comments received.
Bland Shire Council	council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au 02) 9722266 Adam Garland AGarland@blandshire.nsw.gov.au	Response received 24/11/2022. Email provided below; no concern raised. The project has progressed under appalling weather conditions.
TfNSW	stakeholder.relations@transport.nsw.gov.au	No comments received. EMM comment – Sited CC for access intersection leading onto Hwy. Approval letter from TfNSW provided. Trucks movements used for the project are half the numbers suggested in the CoA. Over size vehicles have been minimal and limited to delivery of crane and substation. No other additional oversized vehicles required. No Traffic complaints have been received. oversize delivery for transformer enroute but permits are in place.
BCD	rog.southwest@environment.nsw.gov.au info@environment.nsw.gov.au rog.southwest@environment.nsw.gov.au	Comments received 2.12.22. Query: has the BCD credits and the landscaping plans been finalised. EMM comments: Metka have credits to retire for the project which are not required to be finalized as yet. Landscaping plans have been finalised and submitted. Landscaping will commence as soon as the weather permits.
Heritage	heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au	No comments received. EMM comments – NSW Heritage was consulted during the initial consultation. OzArk was engaged to complete the relocation of heritage items to be impacted by the design. AHMS has been notified of the relocation; all forms were attached to the OzArk report sited.
RAPs	Metka Comms supplied. Mark Sadler – as their contact info@bundyculture.com.au	No comments received. EMM comments – As above, RAPS reviews were included in the ACHMP and approved. Work has been completed by OzArk in accordance with ACHMP. The appendix of the ACHMP by OzArk documents the notification letters to the LALC. Page 8 and Page 9 of the ACHMP describes the consultation with the LALCs for developing the ACHMP for the DA.
Land and Water	water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au	No comments received.

RE: Wyalong Solar Farm IEA consultation - please advise...



David Bone

To Wendy Mason

Follow up. Start by Thursday, 17 November 2022. Due by Thursday, 17 November 2022.



Wed 16/11/2022 11:11 AM

Good morning David,

The department request that EMM consult with other stakeholder such as TfNSW, Bland Council, BCD, NSW Heritage, Local Aboriginal Land Councils and Department of Industry - Lands & Water Division.

Areas to be focus on include:

- Road upgrades and signoff from roads authority;
- Management of vehicle movements;
- Implementation, management and maintenance of erosion and sediment measures/controls on site and to prevent material being tracked off site;
- Measures implemented to ensure that no soil material goes off site as part of the development;
- Measures implemented to ensure that water is not re-directed off site onto neighbours property causing erosion and/or flooding;
- Approval of any other certificates such as construction certificate etc;
- Management and protection of relevant vegetation and aboriginal sites;
- Implementation of measures on site to ensure minimal dust and noise result from the development;
- Status of vegetation planting etc as required under condition and the landscape management plan and
- Status of management plans (approved prior to undertaking relevant activities) and compliance with those plans;

If you have any questions please call me on 0429400261.

Regards
Katrina

Katrina O'Reilly



Ground floor 20 Chandos Street
St Leonards NSW 2065
PO Box 21
St Leonards NSW 1590
02 94 93 9500
www.emmconsulting.com.au

02 November 2022

Bland Shire Council
PO Box 21, West Wyalong, NSW, 2671
council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Re: Wyalong Solar Farm - Independent Environmental Audit – Bland Shire Council feedback

Dear Regional Operations Officer – Southeast Region,

EMM Consulting Pty Limited (EMM) has been engaged by Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd to undertake an independent environmental audit (IEA) of the Wyalong Solar Farm (the Project). The Project is situated 7.5 km north east of West Wyalong, New South Wales, (located at 1409 Newell Highway, Wyalong within land parcel Lot 160 DP750615, within the Bland Shire Council.

In accordance with the Independent Audit: Post Approval Requirements (NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment 2020) the IEA will include an assessment of compliance with SSD-9564 conditions of consent, post approval management plans and an assessment of environmental performance on the site.

EMM's lead auditor Mr David Bone has been approved by the Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE) to conduct the audit, with the site inspection scheduled to occur in the coming month. Key stakeholders are contacted to obtain feedback on the project and provide them an opportunity to raise any matters they may wish reviewed in relation to operational aspects of the project.

Please feel free to contact or email me with any matters you wish to raise, they will be included in the IEA. All matters raised will be documented as part of the audit process and responses included in the audit report submitted to DPIE.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Yours sincerely

W. Mason

Wendy Mason
Associate Environmental Consultant - ECAD



BCD Response RE: Wyalong Solar Farm - Independent Environmental Audit



ROG South West Region Mailbox <rog.southwest@environment.nsw.gov.au>
To Wendy Mason
Cc Simon Maffei

☺ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ⋮

Fri 2/12/2022 7:43 AM

📧 You forwarded this message on 7/12/2022 3:07 PM.

CAUTION: This email originated outside of the Organisation.

Hi Wendy,

Thanks for providing BCD with the opportunity to raise matters to be considered in the independent environmental audit of Wyalong Solar Farm (SSD 9564).

In addition to assessing whether the consent conditions have been met, we would like to draw your attention to the Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) which was prepared in consultation with BCD. At the time of reviewing the BMP in February 2022, the following had not been finalised:

- Landscaping Plan established by Condition 8, and
- The offsetting requirements established by Condition 10.

BCD requests that the audit assess whether these items have been finalised and whether the requirements of the BMP have been met.

Let Simon Maffei (02 6983 4923) know if you have any questions.

Regards

Andrew Fisher
Senior Team Leader, Planning – South West

Biodiversity and Conservation | Department of Planning and Environment
T 02 6022 0623 | M 0427 562 844 | E andrew.fisher@environment.nsw.gov.au

RE: Wyalong Solar Farm - Independent Environmental Audit – Bland Shire Council feedback



Adam Garland <AGarland@blandshire.nsw.gov.au>
To Wendy Mason

☺ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ⋮

Thu 24/11/2022 5:27 PM

Good evening Wendy,

As per our recent telephone conversation Bland Shire Council wishes to advise that it has no environmental concerns pertaining to the Wyalong Solar Farm project. The development progressed through what can only be described as appalling weather conditions that no doubt caused significant disruptions to the construction process and localised flooding on the site.

Whilst poor conditions were noted over a prolonged period, the construction works went ahead without any real involvement from Council.

Kind regards,

Adam



Adam Garland
Building & Environmental Health Surveyor
PO Box 21
West Wyalong NSW 2671

Appendix C

Site Photographs

C.1 Site photographs – 14 November 2022 (site flooded due to large rain event)



Photograph C.1 On the approach to the site, clearly marked and well signed



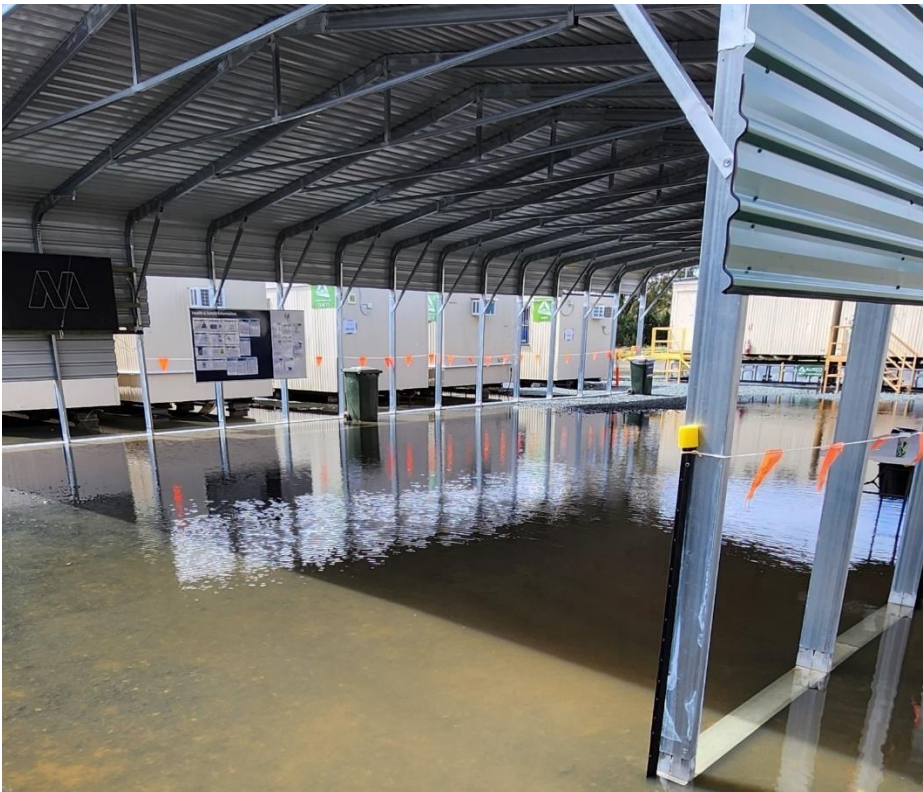
Photograph C.2 On the approach to the site, clearly marked and well signed



Photograph C.3 Internal access roads are clearly delineated and well signed



Photograph C.4 Office access clear (gravel surface)



Photograph C.5 Assembly areas used for prestart and tool boxes – notice board providing relevant environmental information and waste bins provided



Photograph C.6 Fuel storage fenced bunded and spill kit located nearby



Photograph C.7 Chemical storage within locked cabinet



Photograph C.8 Chemical within locked cabinet – well organised



Photograph C.9 Waste management - clearly identified and segregation occurring



Photograph C.10 Internal roads are gravel, existing sediment fence during extreme weather event

C.2 Site photographs provided by site personnel (flood water had receded – 6 December 2022)



Photograph C.11 Sediment fences had been re-established after the flooding



Photograph C.12 Sediment fence along boundary line



Photograph C.13 Rumble grid cleaned out and re-instated



Photograph C.14 Water truck in use for dust prevention

Appendix D

Independent Audit Compliance Table

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
SCHEDULE 1 Development Consent					
1.1	SSD 9564 Applicant Wyalong Solar Farm				
SCHEDULE 2 ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS					
OBLIGATION TO MINIMISE HARM TO THE ENVIRONMENT					
2.1	In meeting the specific environmental performance criteria established under this consent, the Applicant must implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, upgrading or decommissioning of the development.	Triggered	Completion of this compliance table	Refer to EIA report	Compliant
TERMS OF CONSENT					
2.2	The Applicant must carry out the development: (a) generally in accordance with the EIS; and (b) in accordance with the conditions of this consent. Note: The general layout of the development is shown in Appendix 1.	Triggered	Documentation provided on the Project website and DPE website		Compliant
2.3	If there is any inconsistency between the above documents, the most recent document must prevail to the extent of the inconsistency. However, the conditions of this consent must prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.	Triggered	Noted		Compliant
2.4	The Applicant must comply with any requirement/s of the Secretary arising from the Department's assessment of: (a) any strategies, plans or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with this consent; (b) any reports, reviews or audits commissioned by the Department regarding compliance with this consent; and (c) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents.	Triggered	Noted	No requirements noted	Compliant
FINAL LAYOUT PLANS					
2.5	Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must submit detailed plans of the final layout of the development to the Secretary, including details on the siting of solar panels and ancillary infrastructure.	Triggered	Submission slip of final plans to the Secretary provided	Post approvals submission slip provided through ESCO system 08.12.2021	Compliant
UPGRADING OF SOLAR PANELS AND ANCILLARY INFRASTRUCTURE					
2.6	Over time, the Applicant may upgrade the solar panels and ancillary infrastructure on site provided these upgrades remain within the approved development footprint of the site. Prior to carrying out any such upgrades, the Applicant must provide revised layout plans and project details of the development to the Secretary incorporating the proposed upgrades.	Not Triggered	Not triggered	Not triggered	Not Triggered
WORK AS EXECUTED PLANS					
2.7	Prior to commencing operations, or following the upgrades of any solar panels or ancillary infrastructure, the Applicant must submit work as executed plans of the development to the Department.	Not Triggered	Not triggered	Not triggered	Not Triggered
NOTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
2.8	<p>Prior to commencing the construction, operation, upgrading or decommissioning of the development or the cessation of operations, the Applicant must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement, or cessation, of the relevant phase.</p> <p>If any of these phases of the development are to be staged, then the Applicant must notify the Department in writing prior to the commencement of the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage.</p>	Triggered	Construction Certificate 87.2/2022 issued 13/5/2022.	<p>Construction commenced on 9 June 2022. Plans were prepared and approved between December 2021 and April 2022 prior to construction commencement. Submission of final plans to the Secretary provided, email date 11/4/22 in relation to CoA 2.5 for CC 87.2/2022 for Stage 2 works (construction) on 11/4/2022.</p>	Compliant
STRUCTURAL ADEQUACY					
2.9	<p>The Applicant must ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Building Code of Australia.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Under Part 6 of the EP&A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates for the development. <input type="checkbox"/> Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the development. 	Not Triggered	Not triggered	CC 2 includes: Earthworks, Internal Roads, Drainage, Installation of Piling, Trackers, Modules, AC and DC Electrical Networks (HV & LV), Earth Network, Control & Communications Systems, Weather Stations, CCTV, Combining Boxes and Inverter Stations (Power Conversion Units) x 10	Not Triggered
DEMOLITION					
2.10	The Applicant must ensure that all demolition work on site is carried out in accordance with Australian Standard AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures, or its latest version.	Triggered	No demolition work has occurred, prior to commencing works the area was considered a greenfield site.	Not triggered	Not Triggered
PROTECTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE					
2.11	<p>Unless the Applicant and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and</p> <p>(b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development. This condition does not apply to the upgrade and maintenance of the road network, which is expressly provided for in the conditions of this consent.</p>	Not Triggered	Not triggered	Not triggered	Not Triggered
OPERATION OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT					
2.12	The Applicant must ensure that all plant and equipment used on site, or in connection with the development, is:	Triggered	Site inspection and WSF Construction Environmental Management Plan	All plant and equipment on site were in good working order and maintained in accordance with the CEMP.	Compliant
SUBDIVISION					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
2.13	<p>The Applicant may subdivide Lot 160 DP 750615 to create one new allotment, as identified in Appendix 4 and in accordance with the requirements of the EP&A Act and EP&A Regulation.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Under Part 6 of the EP&A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain a subdivision certificate for a plan of subdivision. <input type="checkbox"/> Division 4 of Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the application requirements for subdivision certificates 	Not Triggered	There was no subdivision of the project site.	Not triggered	Not Triggered
SCHEDULE 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS – GENERAL					
TRANSPORT					
3.1	<p>The Applicant must ensure that the:</p> <p>(a) development does not generate more than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 25 heavy vehicle movements a day during construction, upgrading or decommissioning; <input type="checkbox"/> 10 over-dimensional vehicle movements during construction, upgrading and decommissioning; <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 2 heavy vehicle movements a day during operations; on the public road network; <p>(b) length of any vehicles (excluding over-dimensional vehicles) used for the development does not exceed 26 metres, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.</p>	Triggered	Traffic Management Plan for the Construction of Wyalong Solar Farm – 18.01.2022, approved by DPIE Letter dated 02.02.2022 HammerTech QR system - evidence provided and sighted during the site visit.	Requirements listed within the TMP. The project uses a small fleet of trucks, for the project. This ensures that the traffic movement is well controlled, number of truck movements are well within the CoA requirements listed.	Compliant
3.2	<p>The Applicant must keep accurate records of the number of over-dimensional and heavy vehicles entering or leaving the site each day.</p>	Triggered	HammerTech QR system - evidence provided and sighted during the site visit.	HammerTech QR system - is well maintained and used diligently by those on site. All personnel must sign in and out as the enter / leave the site. Tracking all vehicle movements.	Compliant
Designated Over-Dimensional and Heavy Vehicle Access Route					
3.3	<p>All over-dimensional and heavy vehicles associated with the development must travel to and from the site via the Newell Highway and use the approved site access point, as identified in the figure in Appendix 1. Note: The Applicant is required to obtain relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of over dimensional vehicles on the road network.</p>	Triggered	Traffic Management Plan for the Construction of Wyalong Solar Farm – 18.01.2022, approved by DPIE Letter dated 02.02.2022. Site inspection photos	Vehicles can only access the site via Newell Highway and use the approved site access point. (this is how the site is accessed)	Compliant
Designated Over-Dimensional and Heavy Vehicle Access Route					
3.4	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) upgrade the intersection of the site access point and the Newell Highway, including providing a Basic Right Turn (BAR) and Basic Left Turn (BAL) intersection treatment to be able to cater for the largest vehicle accessing the site; and</p> <p>(b) construct the site access point to be a minimum of 50 metres from its intersection with the Newell Highway, to a standard that allows two-way heavy vehicle traffic in all-weather conditions. These upgrades must comply with the Austroads Guide to Road Design (as amended by RMS supplements), and be carried out to the satisfaction of the relevant roads authority.</p>	Triggered	Pro Cert group CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE No. 87.2/2022 dated 13 May 2022. Notice of Practical Completion from the Transport NSW dated 10 June 2022.	The work were completed prior to construction on the site.	Compliant
Designated Over-Dimensional and Heavy Vehicle Access Route					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
3.5	<p>The Applicant must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the internal roads are constructed as all-weather roads; (b) there is sufficient parking on site for all vehicles, and no parking occurs on the public road network in the vicinity of the site; (c) the capacity of the existing roadside drainage network is not reduced; (d) all vehicles are loaded and unloaded on site, and enter and leave the site in a forward direction; and (e) development-related vehicles leaving the site are in a clean condition to minimise dirt being tracked onto the sealed public road network. 	Triggered	Site inspection and WSF Construction Environmental Management Plan	<p>The site was flooded, however it was noted that (a) the internal roads were constructed for all-weather (gravel roads and still drivable); (b) areas allocated for parking on site. (c) existing roadside drainage network is in place(however flooded); (d) space was available for vehicles to be loaded and unloaded on site, and leave the site in a forward direction; and (e) unable to assess this as the site was flooded, this is a potential area for non-compliance post flooding and should be monitored closely. Post flooding photos identify controls in place.</p>	Compliant
Designated Over-Dimensional and Heavy Vehicle Access Route					
3.6	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare a Traffic Management Plan for the development in consultation with RMS and Council, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) details of the transport route to be used for all development-related traffic; (b) details of the road upgrade and site access works required by condition 4 of Schedule 3 of this consent; (c) details of the measures that would be implemented to minimise traffic impacts during construction, upgrading or decommissioning works, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> temporary traffic controls, including detours and signage; <input type="checkbox"/> notifying the local community about project-related traffic impacts; <input type="checkbox"/> procedures for receiving and addressing complaints from the community about development related traffic; (d) a driver's code of conduct that addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> minimising potential for conflict with school buses and other motorists, as far as practicable; <input type="checkbox"/> scheduling of haulage vehicle movements to minimise convoy length or platoons; <input type="checkbox"/> responding to local climate conditions that may affect road safety such as fog, dust, wet weather; <input type="checkbox"/> responding to any emergency repair or maintenance requirements; and <input type="checkbox"/> a traffic management system for managing over-dimensional vehicles; (e) a driver's code of conduct that addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> travelling speeds; <input type="checkbox"/> driver fatigue; <input type="checkbox"/> procedures to ensure that drivers adhere to the designated transport route/s; and <input type="checkbox"/> procedures to ensure that drivers implement safe driving practices; and (f) a program to ensure drivers working on the development receive suitable training on the code of conduct and any other relevant obligations under the Traffic Management Plan; <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Traffic Management Plan.</p>	Triggered	Traffic Management Plan for the Construction of Wyalong Solar Farm – 18.01.2022, approved by DPIE Letter dated 02.02.2022 Email correspondence from Bland Shire Council dated 26/08/2021	<p>The TMP was developed and approved by DPE and Bland Shire Council prior to construction commencing on the site. During the site inspection although no vehicle movement was it was evident that the site was well established and signage was available to all vehicles entering the site. Post flooding photos and records reviewed identify that the plan has been implemented as required.</p>	Compliant

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
LANDSCAPING - Vegetation Buffer					
3.7	<p>The Applicant must establish and maintain a mature vegetation buffer (landscape screening) as outlined in the figure in Appendix 1 to supplement the existing vegetation along the Newell Highway to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The landscape screening must:</p> <p>(a) be planted prior to commencing operations;</p> <p>(b) be comprised of species that are endemic to the area;</p> <p>(c) within 3 years of commencing construction, effectively screen views of the solar panels and ancillary infrastructure on-site from the Newell Highway; and</p> <p>(d) be properly maintained with appropriate weed management.</p>	Not Triggered	Not triggered	The auditor suggests that if space is not a limiting factor on this site, planting could be completed earlier (ie less than 3 ears after construction commencement) to achieve a better screening outcome.	Not Triggered
Landscaping Plan					
3.8	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare a detailed Landscaping Plan for the development in consultation with Council and RMS and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must include:</p> <p>(a) a description of measures that would be implemented to ensure that the vegetated buffer achieves the objectives of condition 7 (a) – (d) above;</p> <p>(b) a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures, including if additional locations for further landscape screening are required to achieve the objectives of Condition 7 (b) and (c) above; and</p> <p>(c) details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing and implementing the plan, and timeframes for the completion of actions.</p> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Landscaping Plan.</p>	Triggered	Landscape Management Plan WSF 08.12.2021 DPIE Letter dated 20.12.2021 Landscape Management Plan Approval. Emailed from Bland shire Council dated 15 July 2021 and TfNSW email dated 21 July 2021	The Landscape Management Plan was developed and approved with consultation from TfNSW, Bland Shire Council and DPE.	Compliant
LAND MANAGEMENT					
3.9	<p>Following any construction or upgrading on the site, the Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) restore the ground cover of the site as soon as practicable;</p> <p>(b) maintain the ground cover with appropriate perennial species; and</p> <p>(c) manage weeds within this ground cover.</p>	Triggered	Site inspection, WSF Construction Environmental Management Plan and Landscape Management Plan WSF 08.12.2021 and HammerTech QR system inspection records	Clearing and grubbing of the site has taken place at this phase of the project, clear delineation of works, inspection sheets included weed control. A thorough review of ground cover will be required post flooding.	Compliant
Biodiversity Offsets					
3.10	<p>Within two years of commencing construction under this consent, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits of a number and class specified in Table 1 and Table 2 below to the satisfaction of OEH.</p> <p>The retirement of these credits must be carried out in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme and can be achieved by:</p> <p>(a) acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016;</p> <p>(b) making payments into an offset fund that has been developed by the NSW Government; or</p> <p>(c) funding a biodiversity conservation action that benefits the threatened entity impacted by the development, consistent with the 'Ancillary rules: Biodiversity conservation actions'.</p>	Not Triggered	Not triggered	Current date due 9 June 2024	Not Triggered
Biodiversity Management Plan					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
3.11	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan for the development in consultation with OEH, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a)include a description of the measures that would be implemented for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/>managing the remnant vegetation and fauna habitat on site; <input type="checkbox"/>minimising clearing and avoiding unnecessary disturbance of vegetation that is associated with the construction and operation of the development; <input type="checkbox"/>minimising the impacts to fauna on site and implementing fauna management protocols; <input type="checkbox"/>avoiding the removal of hollow-bearing trees during spring to avoid the main breeding period for hollow-dependent fauna; <input type="checkbox"/>rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas with species that are endemic to the area; <input type="checkbox"/>protecting vegetation and fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance areas; <input type="checkbox"/>maximising the salvage of vegetative and soil resources within the approved disturbance area for beneficial reuse in the enhancement or the rehabilitation of the site; and <input type="checkbox"/>controlling weeds and feral pests; <p>(b)include details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing and implementing the plan, and timeframes for completion of actions.</p>	Triggered	Biodiversity Management Plan – WSF March 2022 DPIE Letter dated 04.04.2022 Biodiversity Management Plan Approval, Site Inspection, Weekly inspection sheets.	NOTE: Environment and Heritage (OEH) referred to in the Conditions of Consent has since been replaced by DPE. DPE received a draft of the BMP to review on 19th December 2021. OzArk Environment and Heritage received review comments on the BMP from BCD on 2nd February 2022 and revised the contents of this BMP accordingly on 4th February 2022. Approval letter sited. Site was a flat landform, of grazing paddocks before construction with vegetation along fences and edges of paddocks fronting the Newell Highway; nesting boxes have been established in these surrounds to encourage local wild life. No reported injured animals at the time of the audit.	Compliant
AMENITY					
Construction, Upgrading and Decommissioning Hours					
3.12	<p>The Applicant may only undertake construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities on site between:</p> <p>(a)7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday;</p> <p>(b)8 am to 1 pm Saturdays; and</p> <p>(c)at no time on Sundays and NSW public holidays, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise. The following construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities may be undertaken outside these hours without the approval of the Secretary: -the delivery of materials as requested by the NSW Police Force or other authorities for safety reasons; or emergency work to avoid the loss of life, property and/or material harm to the environment.</p>	Triggered	WSF Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) dated 20.09.2021 MYT-AU-PL-PRO-EV-0004 Section 8.9.	Work has been undertaken during these approved hours, no additional noise complaints have been received at the time of the audit.	Compliant
Noise					
3.13	<p>The Applicant must minimise the noise generated by any construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities on site in accordance with the best practice requirements outlined in the Interim Construction Noise Guideline (DECC, 2009), or its latest version.</p>	Triggered	Noise Management Plan (NMP), MYT-AU-PL-PRO-EV-0019	Work has been undertaken during hours listed above, due to the work required at the site and the proximity of local receivers noise has not been an area of concern	Compliant
Dust					
3.14	The Applicant must minimise the dust generated by the development.	Triggered	Site was flooded during the inspection, no dust complaints, site personnel interviewed. Site photos	Dust has not been an issue due to large amounts of rain, Internal roads were constructed of all-weather material; this has reduced dust, site personnel indicated that a water truck is used if dust becomes an issue.	Compliant
Visual					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
3.15	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) minimise the off-site visual impacts of the development, including the potential for any glare or reflection;</p> <p>(b) ensure the visual appearance of all ancillary infrastructure (including paint colours) blends in as far as possible with the surrounding landscape; and</p> <p>(c) not mount any advertising signs or logos on site, except where this is required for identification or safety purposes.</p>	Triggered	Site inspection	<p>During the site inspection it was noted that signage was minimal and only to identify the site (no other additional signage). No solar panels in place at the time of the audit.</p> <p>Site facilities are well back off the road and partially obscured by existing vegetation.</p>	Compliant
Lighting					
3.16	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) minimise the off-site lighting impacts of the development; and</p> <p>(b) ensure that any external lighting associated with the development:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> is installed as low intensity lighting (except where required for safety or emergency purposes);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> does not shine above the horizontal; and</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> complies with Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1997 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting, or its latest version.</p>	Triggered	CEMP Section 13.11, Site inspection - no complaints	<p>Site inspection was undertaken during day light hours, light spill was not assessed. The CEMP Section 3.11 clearly states requirements to reduce light spill from the site while still maintaining a safe environment . No significant lighting exists at the site apart from security lighting of site sheds and equipment laydown areas.</p>	Compliant
HERITAGE					
Protection of Heritage Items					
3.17	<p>The Applicant must ensure the development does not cause any direct or indirect impacts on the Aboriginal heritage items identified in Table 1 of Appendix 3 or located outside the approved development footprint.</p>	Triggered	<p>Cultural Heritage Management Plan - WSF December 2021</p> <p>DPIE Letter dated 22.12.2021 Cultural Heritage Management Plan Approval</p>	<p>During the audit it was noted that Heritage items have been clearly demarcated, and signage provided, the Induction included information informing staff of the Aboriginal items on site, and requirements to report any additional finds. A review of controls to protect these areas should be undertaken following flood water receding.</p>	Compliant
3.18	<p>The Applicant must ensure the development does not cause any direct or indirect impacts on the Aboriginal heritage items identified in Table 2 of Appendix 3.</p> <p>If impacts on these items cannot be avoided, the Applicant must salvage and relocate the item/s that would be impacted to a suitable alternative location on site, in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW, 2010), or its latest version.</p> <p>Note: The location of the Aboriginal heritage items referred to in this condition are shown in the figure in Appendix 3.</p>	Triggered	<p>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Salvage Report: Wyalong Solar Farm "Glenroy and Glenee" 1409 Newell Highway, Wyalong NSW.</p> <p>July 2022 Ozark. Site Inspection</p>	<p>Ozark completed the removal and relocation of 5 items on the site, these items have been removed and reburied. The reburial site has been submitted to AHIMS. The remaining sites have been clearly demarcated and signed to ensure direct or indirect impact does not occur. A review of controls to protect these areas should be undertaken following flood water receding.</p>	Compliant
Heritage Management Plan					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
3.19	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare a Heritage Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a) be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;</p> <p>(b) be prepared in consultation with OEH and Aboriginal Stakeholders;</p> <p>(c) include a description of the measures that would be implemented for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> protecting the Aboriginal heritage items identified in Table 1 in Appendix 3 or outside the approved development footprint, including fencing off the Aboriginal heritage items prior to commencing construction and/or pre-construction minor works; <input type="checkbox"/> salvaging and relocating the Aboriginal heritage items located within the approved development footprint, as identified in Table 2 in Appendix 3, if impacts to these items cannot be avoided; <input type="checkbox"/> a contingency plan and reporting procedure if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - previously unidentified heritage items are found; or - Aboriginal skeletal material is discovered; <input type="checkbox"/> ensuring workers on site receive suitable heritage inductions prior to carrying out any development on site, and that records are kept of these inductions; and <input type="checkbox"/> ongoing consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders during the implementation of the plan; <p>(d) include a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures and any heritage impacts of the project.</p> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Heritage Management Plan.</p>	Triggered	<p>Cultural Heritage Management Plan - WSF Dec. 2021</p> <p>DPIE Letter dated 22.12.2021 Cultural Heritage Management Plan Approval HammerTech Weekly inspection sheets. Site Inspection. Site Induction</p>	<p>Site Induction - clearly informed staff of the NO GO ZONES and what to do in the event that additional items were found during construction. Fencing has been erected to clearly demarcate the items on site, as above items have been relocated. Check / reinstate all fencing once flood waters have receded.</p>	Compliant
SOIL & WATER					
Water Supply					
3.20	<p>The Applicant must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply.</p> <p>Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain the necessary water licenses for the development.</p>	Triggered	<p>Water usage tracking sheets provided.</p>	<p>Water is being trucked in to site during the construction phase this water requirement will then be dramatically reduced during operational phase.</p>	Compliant
Water Pollution					
3.21	<p>The Applicant must ensure that the development does not cause any water pollution, as defined under Section 120 of the POEO Act.</p>	Triggered	<p>Site inspection photos, Weekly inspection sheets</p>	<p>Designated roads used, Erosion control plans established and implemented, planting and deeding undertaken and areas established for chemical storage refueling with controls.</p>	Compliant
Operating Conditions					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
3.22	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) minimise any soil erosion associated with the construction, upgrading or decommissioning of the development in accordance with the relevant requirements in the Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom, 2004) manual, or its latest version; and</p> <p>(b) ensure all works (including watercourse crossings) are undertaken in accordance with the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (2018), or its latest version; and <input type="checkbox"/> Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings (2004), or its latest version, unless otherwise agreed by Dol – L&W. 	Triggered	Site inspection. Pro Cert group CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE No. 87.2/2022 dated 13 May 2022.	At the time of the inspection the site was flooded, it was however evident that the access to the site had been constructed CC sited, all internal roads had been established to prevent soil erosion. Sed controls were in place. All sediment control will have to be removed and replaced after the flood waters have receded.	Compliant
HAZARDS					
Final Hazard Analysis					
3.23	<p>Prior to commencing construction of the battery storage facility, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must prepare a Final Hazard Analysis to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The study must:</p> <p>(a) describe the final design of the battery storage facility (including associated plant and equipment) and identify any significant design variations between the final design and the designs considered in the EIS; and</p> <p>(b) verify and confirm the analysis in the EIS and report on the implementation of recommendations and safeguards detailed in this section.</p>	Not Triggered	Not triggered	Battery storage facility will not be constructed for this phase of the project.	Not Triggered
3.24	<p>If the final design of the battery storage facility varies significantly from the designs considered in the EIS, the Final Hazard Analysis must be prepared in accordance with the Department's Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6, 'Hazard Analysis' and Multi-level Risk Assessment.</p>	Not Triggered	Not triggered	Battery storage facility will not be constructed for this phase of the project.	Not Triggered
Fire Safety Study					
3.25	<p>Prior to commencing construction of the battery storage facility, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Applicant must prepare a Fire Safety Study of the development, to the satisfaction of the Secretary. The study must:</p> <p>(a) be consistent with the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Department's Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 2 'Fire Safety Study' guideline; and <input type="checkbox"/> NSW Government's Best Practice Guidelines for Contaminated Water Retention and Treatment Systems; and <p>(b) describe the final design of the battery storage facility.</p> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the measures described in the Fire Safety Study.</p>	Triggered	Not triggered	Battery storage facility will not be constructed for this phase of the project.	Not Triggered
Storage and Handling of Dangerous Materials					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
3.26	The Applicant must store and handle all chemicals, fuels and oils used on-site in accordance with: (a) the requirements of all relevant Australian Standards; and (b) the NSW EPA's Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Handbook if the chemicals are liquids. In the event of an inconsistency between the requirements listed from (a) to (b) above, the most stringent requirement must prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.	Triggered	Site Inspection photos, WSF Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) - 20.09.2021 (MYT-AU-PL-PRO-EV-0004)	Chemicals on site were stored within bunded areas, and were in general compliance with Aust. Standards	Compliant
Operating Conditions					
3.27	The Applicant must: (a) minimise the fire risks of the development; (b) ensure that the development: □ includes at least a 10 metre defensible space around the perimeter of the solar array area and battery storage facility that permits unobstructed vehicle access; □ manages the defensible space and solar array areas as an Asset Protection Zone; □ complies with the relevant asset protection requirements in the RFS's Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006 (or equivalent) and Standards for Asset Protection Zones; □ is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site including provision of a 40,000 litre water supply tank fitted with a 65mm Storz fitting located adjacent to the internal access road; (c) assist the RFS and emergency services as much as practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site; and (d) notify the relevant local emergency management committee following construction of the development, and prior to commencing operations.	Triggered	Emergency Response Plan Wyalong Solar Farm MYT-AU-TP-COR-HS-0002 Site Inspection and Final Site Plans, CEMP, Weekly inspections	Bush fire management is listed as a section on weekly inspections. Project is being constructed as per approved plans, the ring road to access the site runs around the perimeter of the site allowing full access, water tank on site 95,000L with RFS approved hose links. Emergency Procedures and contact details are listed on the site boards.	Compliant
Emergency Plan					
3.28	Prior to commencing operations, the Applicant must develop and implement a comprehensive Emergency Plan and detailed emergency procedures for the development, to the satisfaction of Fire and Rescue NSW and the RFS. The Applicant must keep two copies of the plan on-site in a prominent position adjacent to the site entry points at all times. The plan must: (a) be consistent with the Department's Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 1, 'Emergency Planning'; (b) identify the fire risks and controls of the development; and (c) include procedures that would be implemented if there is a fire on-site or in the vicinity of the site.	Triggered	Emergency Response Plan Wyalong Solar Farm MYT-AU-TP-COR-HS-0002	An Emergency Response Plan is currently in place for the project. Emergency Response Team (ERT) has been established and the ERT are visible on the project notice board along with Emergency Response Plans. RFS have been consulted on the plan, construction activities and location of fire fighting equipment.	Compliant
WASTE					
3.29	The Applicant must: (a) minimise the waste generated by the development in accordance with the EPA's waste hierarchy objectives of avoidance, resource recovery and disposal; (b) classify all waste generated on site in accordance with the EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines 2014 (or its latest version); (c) store and handle all waste on site in accordance with its classification; (d) not receive or dispose of any waste on site; and (e) remove all waste from the site as soon as practicable, and ensure it is sent to an appropriately licensed waste facility for disposal.	Triggered	Site Inspection, MYT-AU-PL-PRO-EV-0007_Wyalong SF WMP MY Waste tracking sheets	a) WMP identified waste minimisation b) Waste areas had been designated and clearly labelled for easy identification and segregation, waste tracking sheets evident of recycling c) oil waste was stored on site correctly. d) waste not received or stored on site e) no waste storage on site - waste had been removed prior to the large rain events.	Compliant
ACCOMMODATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
3.30	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare an Accommodation and Employment Strategy for the development in consultation with Council, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:</p> <p>(a) propose a strategy to facilitate the accommodation and the workforce associated with the development;</p> <p>(b) investigate options for prioritising the employment of local workers for the construction and operation of the development, where feasible;</p> <p>(c) include a program to monitor and review the effectiveness of the strategy over the life of the development.</p> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the strategy.</p>	Triggered	<p>MYTILINOS Accommodation and Employment Strategy 06.12.2021 MYT-AU-PL-PRJ-HS-0033 Site interviews DPIE letter dated 10.12.2021 Accommodation and Employment Strategy Approval</p>	<p>The project has made attempts to employ more locals - however the mining operations in the area are paying more than the SF offers, and provide longer term contracts. Management is housed in West Wyalong, with majority of the work force staying in local rental accommodation and the local caravan parks. Workers are sourced from within a 200km radius of the site, however given the technical skills required, many resources are not available from the local areas.</p> <p>SSD 9564 REC#1 The auditor recommends that a review of the plan be documented to assess it's effectiveness as the project receives new construction certificates.</p>	Compliant
DECOMMISSIONING AND REHABILITATION					
3.31	<p>Within 18 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.</p>	Not Triggered	Not triggered	Not triggered	Not Triggered
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING					
Environmental Management Strategy					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
4.1	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:</p> <p>(a) provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the development;</p> <p>(b) identify the statutory approvals that apply to the development;</p> <p>(c) describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development;</p> <p>(d) describe the procedures that would be implemented to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development; <input type="checkbox"/> receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints; <input type="checkbox"/> resolve any disputes that may arise; <input type="checkbox"/> respond to any non-compliance; <input type="checkbox"/> respond to emergencies; and <p>(e) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> references to any plans approved under the conditions of this consent; and <input type="checkbox"/> a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development. <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Environmental Management Strategy.</p>	Triggered	<p>WSF Environmental Management Strategy Rev A - 25.08.2021 DPIE letter dated 13.12.2021</p> <p>Environmental Management Strategy Approval. MY Site Induction</p>	<p>EMS has been prepared and approved prior to construction. Mitigation measures outlined in the EMS have been implemented on site with Regular Environmental inspections been undertaken and recorded in the Hammer Tech QR system. Both pre and post rain event inspections taking place. It is noted that during early stages of the project, site inspections were not undertaken weekly as the EMS states. (they were completed fortnightly - this was due to the slow nature of the start up of the works - with little change weekly) Site Induction - included the Heritage awareness and information about No GO areas.</p>	Compliant
Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs					
4.2	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) update the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary prior to carrying out any upgrading or decommissioning activities on site; and</p> <p>(b) review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary within 1 month of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> submission of an incident report under condition 4 of Schedule 4; <input type="checkbox"/> submission of an audit report under condition 7 of Schedule 4; or <input type="checkbox"/> any modification to the conditions of this consent. 	Triggered	<p>WSF Environmental Management Strategy Rev A - 25.08.2021 DPIE letter dated 13.12.2021</p> <p>Environmental Management Strategy Approval</p> <p>Accommodation and Employment Strategy - 06.12.2021</p> <p>Traffic Management Plan WSF – 18.01.2022</p> <p>Biodiversity Management Plan – WSF March 2022</p> <p>Landscape Management Plan WSF 08.12.2021</p> <p>Cultural Heritage Management Plan - WSF Dec. 2021</p>	<p>All strategies and plans have been approved by the department prior to the commencement of construction</p>	Compliant
Updating and Staging of Strategies, Plans or Programs					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
4.3	<p>With the approval of the Secretary, the Applicant may submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a progressive basis.</p> <p>To ensure the strategies, plans or programs under the conditions of this consent are updated on a regular basis, the Applicant may at any time submit revised strategies, plans or programs to the Secretary for approval. With the agreement of the Secretary, the Applicant may prepare any revised strategy, plan or program without undertaking consultation with all the parties referred to under the relevant condition of this consent.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> While any strategy, plan or program may be submitted on a progressive basis, the Applicant must ensure that all development being carried out on site is covered by suitable strategies, plans or programs at all times. <input type="checkbox"/> If the submission of any strategy, plan or program is to be staged, then the relevant strategy, plan or program must clearly describe the specific stage to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of this stage to any future stages, and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program. 	Triggered	<p>WSF Environmental Management Strategy Rev A - 25.08.2021 DPIE letter dated 13.12.2021</p> <p>Environmental Management Strategy Approval</p> <p>Accommodation and Employment Strategy - 06.12.2021</p> <p>Traffic Management Plan WSF – 18.01.2022</p> <p>Biodiversity Management Plan – WSF March 2022</p> <p>Landscape Management Plan WSF 08.12.2021</p> <p>Cultural Heritage Management Plan - WSF Dec. 2021</p>	All strategies and plans have been submitted and approved prior to the commencement of construction	Compliant
COMPLIANCE					
Incident Notification					
4.4	The Department must be notified in writing to compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au immediately after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and the name of the development if it has one), and set out the location and nature of the incident.	Triggered	The client advises that there has been no incidents at the time of the audit.	No notification required	Compliant
Non-Compliance Notification					
4.5	The Department must be notified in writing to compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au within 7 days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance with the conditions of this consent. The notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the noncompliance (if known) and what actions have been done, or will be, undertaken to address the noncompliance.	Triggered	The client advises that there has been no non-compliance with the conditions of this consent at the time of the audit.	No notification required	Compliant
Compliance Reporting					
4.6	Prior to commencing the construction, upgrading and decommissioning of the development, the Applicant must submit a compliance report to the Department in accordance with the relevant Compliance Reporting Post Approval Requirements (DPE 2018), or its latest version.	Triggered	This IEA	This is the first IEA required by this consent.	Compliant
INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT					

Wyalong Solar Farm (WSF) Environmental Compliance- 6mths of commencement

CoA #	Requirement	Triggered for audit period	Evidence collected	Audit findings and recommendations	Compliance Status (Compliant/Non-compliant / Not triggered)
4.7	<p>Within 6 months of commencing construction, or as directed by the Secretary, the Applicant must commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audit must:</p> <p>(a) be prepared in accordance with the relevant Independent Audit Post Approval requirements (DPE 2018);</p> <p>(b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;</p> <p>(c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;</p> <p>(d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and</p> <p>(e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent. Within 3 months of commencing an Independent Environmental Audit, or unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, a copy of the audit report must be submitted to the Secretary, and any other NSW agency that requests it, together with a response to any recommendations contained in the audit report, and a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations. The recommendations of the Independent Environmental Audit must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	Triggered	This IEA	EMM Consulting Pty Limited (EMM) was engaged by Metka EGN Australia Pty Ltd (Metka) to conduct an independent environmental audit (IEA) of the Wyalong Solar Farm and is the subject of this IEA	Compliant
ACCESS TO INFORMATION					
4.8	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the EIS; <input type="checkbox"/> the final layout plans for the development; <input type="checkbox"/> current statutory approvals for the development; <input type="checkbox"/> approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent; <input type="checkbox"/> the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation or decommissioning of the development is to be staged; <input type="checkbox"/> how complaints about the development can be made; <input type="checkbox"/> a complaints register; <input type="checkbox"/> compliance reports; <input type="checkbox"/> any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and <input type="checkbox"/> any other matter required by the Secretary; and <p>(b) keep this information up to date.</p>	Triggered	Project Website https://wyalongsolarfarm.com.au/	<p>Project website contains some of the required information, and needs to be updated to fully comply with the requirements of this condition. The website lists the information that should be accessible, however not all links are active and some links refer to the approval of the plan rather than the actual plan as required by CoA 4.8 (a). There is no complaints register or compliance reports. As this is the first audit of the project which has been under construction for approximately 5 months some reports, such as this audit report, have not been triggered at the time of the audit.</p> <p>SSD 9564 NCR#1</p>	Non Compliant

SSD 9564 Applicant Wyalong Solar Farm - NCR-OPP Register

Audit Reference	NCR or Oppr	Condition Number ID	Compliance Requirement	Date raised	Independent Audit Finding	Independent Audit Recommendation	Proponent's Proposed Actions/ Actions taken	Proposed Action due date	
IEA 1	SSD 9564 NCR#1	CoA 4.8	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the EIS; <input type="checkbox"/> the final layout plans for the development; <input type="checkbox"/> current statutory approvals for the development; <input type="checkbox"/> approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent; <input type="checkbox"/> the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation or decommissioning of the development is to be staged; <input type="checkbox"/> how complaints about the development can be made; <input type="checkbox"/> a complaints register; <input type="checkbox"/> compliance reports; <input type="checkbox"/> any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and <input type="checkbox"/> any other matter required by the Secretary; and <p>(b) keep this information up to date.</p> <p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare an Accommodation and Employment Strategy for the development in consultation with Council, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:</p> <p>(c) include a program to monitor and review the effectiveness of the strategy over the life of the development.</p>	14/11/2022	<p>Project website contains some of the required information, and needs to be up dated to fully comply with the requirements of this condition. The website lists the information that should be accessible, however not all links are active and some links refer to the approval of the plan rather than the actual plan as required by CoA 4.8 (a). There is no complaints register or compliance reports. As this is the first audit of the project which has been under construction for approximately 5 months some reports, such as this audit report, have not been triggered at the time of the audit.</p>	<p>The auditor recommends that the project website be updated to fully comply with CoA 4.8</p>		28/02/2023	
IEA 1	SSD 9564 REC#1	CoA 3.30 (c)	<p>(c) include a program to monitor and review the effectiveness of the strategy over the life of the development.</p>	14/11/2022	<p>Regular review of this plan should be undertaken</p>		<p>The auditor recommends that a review of the plan be undertaken to assess it's effectiveness as the project receives new construction certificates.</p>		28/02/2023

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