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Minister for Planning
 c/- Divyaa Sundaravadivel
 Department of Transport & Planning

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25 March 2024
 Our Ref: 20143

Via DTP Permits Online portal

**RFI Response – Application PA2101321-1
 5MW Solar Energy Facility
 Goroke-Harrow Road, Charam VIC**

ADVERTISED PLAN

Dear Divyaa,

In response to the Department’s request for further information, dated 3 March 2024, we provide the following information. To streamline our response, the information is listed as it appears in the original further information request.

In addition to providing the following information we request an Extension of Time of 30 days so that should the information provided fail to satisfy the requirements of the RFI, the application will not lapse.

<i>A recent copy of Certificate of Title and Plan of Subdivision (searched within the past 30 days).</i>	A current copy of title has been searched and is now provided – refer to attached. There are no covenants or restrictions on title.
<i>Amended development plans to show the following:</i>	Amended plans (<i>Revision J</i>) have been drafted by Green Gold Energy and are now submitted in support of this response. A summary of the changes are as follows:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Detail the maximum voltage of the proposed power line on site and elevation plan.</i> 	Updated Site and Power line elevation Plans supplied to detail maximum voltage of the proposed power line.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>State the maximum storage capacity and type of BESS (including specifications and information on the type of battery e.g., LFP, LTO).</i> 	Four (4) BESS units are now labelled on the plans. A notation details the type of BESS is an LFP and the maximum storage capacity is 11 MVA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Elevations to detail the inverter transformer, inverter station and SVG enclosure to be consistent with the set of plans submitted for the original planning permit.</i> 	An Electrical Equipment Elevations Plan , consistent with plans submitted as part of the original planning permit, is attached herewith.

Provide a revised cover letter to address the following:

- **Detailed explanation as to why the proposed BESS is considered as a 'minor utility installation'.**

The proposed BESS units are defined as **minor utility installation** under Clause 73 of the West Wimmera Planning Scheme. Further, both the use and development of a minor utility installation is exempt under the relevant provisions of Clause 62.01 and 62.02, respectively.

Under the Land Use Term Table at Clause 73.03, a Minor Utility Installation is defined as;

"Land used for a utility installation comprising of any of the following:

a-i)

j) a battery connected to a section of the electricity distribution network operating within a nominal voltage not exceeding 66,000 volts."

As the BESS will be connected to a power line of maximum 22,000 kva, which does not exceed 66,000 volts, this proposal can be deemed, by definition, a Minor Utility Installation.

Consequently, statutory referral of an exempt use and development under Clause 66 is not appropriate for this application.

Should you require any further information in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle Sammut

Town Planner

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Doc No.: 20143_L_Rfi Response_250324

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