

Our ref: DOC21/1077773 Your ref: CNR 32098

Lindsay Mathieson Gilgandra Shire Council Imathieson@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au

Dear Lindsay

Gilgandra Solar Farm - 361 Oxley Highway, Gilgandra

Thank you for your request dated 30 November 2021 to the Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate (BCS) of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment inviting comments on the Gilgandra Solar Farm.

BCS has reviewed the Statement of Environmental Effects and the Biodiversity Assessment Report and understands that no trees or shrubs are proposed to be removed as a result of the development, and less than 1 hectare of native groundcover will be removed to construct access to the site. It is also understood that the array site is currently under crop and does not contain a native ground cover.

BCS are satisfied that the proposed works do not trigger entry into the Biodiversity Offset Scheme.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Michelle Howarth, Conservation Planning Officer, via michelle.howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au or (02) 6883 5339.

Yours sincerely

Samantha Wynn

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Senior Team Leader Planning North West Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate

6 December 2021