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Title	Information Only
Text	After few shout outs to other Northern Inland Regional Waste (NIRW) Councils. Armidale, Moree and Uralla have responded with very significant issues around Waste Management.
	NIRW are investigating the increase problems from these types of projects.
	The clear message Ii¦m receiving is that there are many problematic and hazardous materials associated with solar farms.
	Considering that solar panels have a life span of 15-25 years, even 30, the waste management industry will see an increase in disposal very soon similar to E-waste (computers and TVi¦s).
	Eventually it will be legislative that the products will not be able be landfilled and will be required to be recycled through a product stewardship program (must pay a levy when purchased to enable the product to be returned to appropriate recycler).
	The volumes mention in the waste management plan for the DA on 262 Hunts Road are very low and I would be concerned that that they have underestimated the waste volumes which will be generated in construction phase.
	Whati¦s also lacking in the Waste Management Plan is the
	1. Identification of problem wastes and hazardous waste such as;
	o Single use pine pallets (some treated iV could potentially have arsenic in them) o Plastic shrink wrap o Plastic strapping
	o Styrofoam inserts between each solar panel in the carton (usually 10 panels per carton)
	o The abovementioned cardboard boxes 1m x 1m with a cardboard lid
	o Cardboard inserts between the Styrofoam
	o Camp waste from crib rooms etc o Panels have lead and cadmium leachable components.
	2. Underestimated volumes of the above products
	3. Collection and Disposal after construction. The plan nominates the local Landfill and Recycling facility for waste disposal but there

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ECM Note

has been no consultation between stakeholders to determine that the products are able to be i¥lawfully disposedi¦ at Gunnedah Waste management Facility or the Recycling facility have the capacity to recycle this product. The developer will need to do an end of life plan of the site as well as an alternate solution if the waste cant be accepted locally.

4. Legislative requirements regarding the transportation of hazardous waste also not been addressed.

Other Potential Environmental Impacts Council should consider

Waste streams anticipated to be generated from construction activities can be:

"«fnWaste soils

"«fnContaminated soils

"«fnWastewater

"«fnStormwater

"«fnSewerage waste

"«fnIndustrial wastes such as scrap metals

"«fnControlled wastes such as hydrocarbon waste and paint residues

"«fnDomestic wastes

The potential impacts of the Project associated with poor waste and energy management during the construction phase are:

"« Potential soil, groundwater/surface contamination through waste or leachate spills or leakage as a result of inappropriate storage and disposal

"«fnAttraction of non-indigenous fauna and/or native animals through putrescible wastes

"«fnFire risk in waste storage areas

"«fnThe visual amenity impacted by litters

"«fnOffensive odours from waste storage areas

"«fnExcessive waste generation/inefficient use of resources

"«fnResource depletion

"«fnAir emissions

Potential Waste and Reuse Impacts

The potential adverse impacts that could be caused during construction include:

"«fnExcessive waste to landfill

"«fnNot meeting (Client) environmental objectives

"«fnAdditional risks associated with inadequately controlling the process of classifying, storing and finally disposing of wastes, causing pollution and possibly exposing (Client) to future action to recover deposited materials, repatriate to an appropriate receiving location and remediate lands.

ECM Note

Please take the time to read the responses from other Councils who are experience waste management issues around solar panels and if we (Council) can consider better Waste Management Plans in the future to assist with keeping the landfill life expectancy in mind as building a new landfill may cost council over 12 million (Armidale new landfill construction costs).