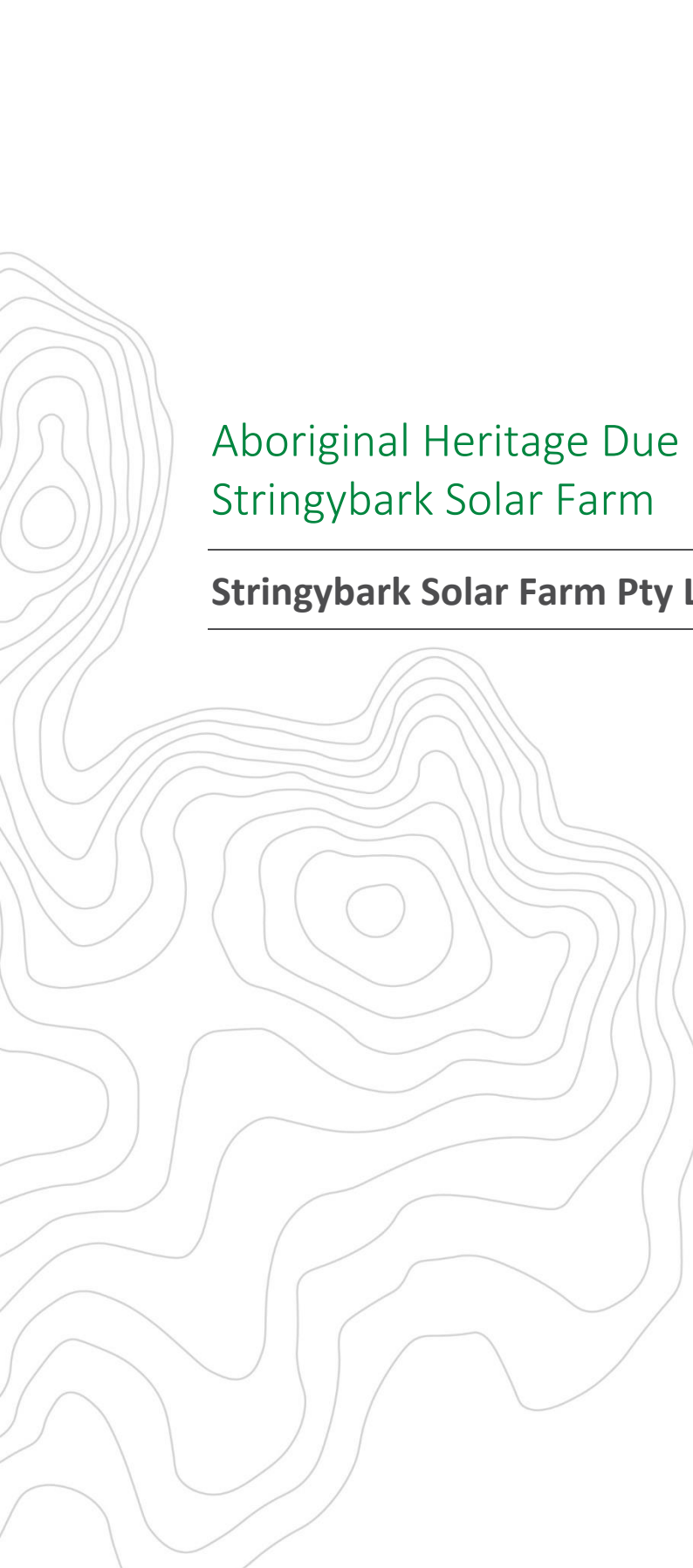


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Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment – Stringybark Solar Farm

Stringybark Solar Farm Pty Ltd

DOCUMENT TRACKING

Project Name	Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment – Stringybark Solar Farm
Project Number	19SYD-12937
Project Manager	Jane Ross
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Approved by	Robert Cawley
Status	Final
Version Number	V2
Last saved on	16 August 2019

This report should be cited as 'Eco Logical Australia, 2019 Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment - Stringybark Solar Farm. Prepared for Stringybark Solar Farm Pty Ltd'

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This document has been prepared by Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd with support from Stringybark Solar Farm Pty Ltd.

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Template 2.8.1

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project background

Stringybark Solar Farm Pty Ltd (the Proponent) is undertaking an assessment for the development of a solar farm and associated infrastructure in the Argyle area within the New England Region, located approximately 14 km east of Armidale. Locally the site is situated within gently undulating agricultural land with minor ridgelines throughout and is near the recent Armidale Landfill development, located less than 1 km to the north of the Proposal.

The Proponent engaged Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) to undertake an Aboriginal archaeological due diligence assessment of the study area to identify if Aboriginal objects were likely to be located within the area of the proposed works and if so whether the proposed works had the potential to harm those objects.

A map of the proposed works has been provided by the Proponent (**Figures 1-2**). The works have been developed by the proponent adopting an “avoid-mitigate-offset” philosophy that seeks in the first instance to avoid potential impacts to cultural heritage. This philosophy underpins the current assessment; where potential constraints are identified and avoided through sensitive design.

This assessment outlines the findings of the Aboriginal archaeological due diligence assessment of the Study Area, in accordance with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (NSW DECCW 2010).

1.2 Assessment process

The aims of this archaeological due diligence assessment are to:

- Undertake a search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) register maintained by the OEH to establish if there are any previously recorded Aboriginal objects or places within the study area.
- Undertake a search of the NSW State Heritage Inventory, the Australian Heritage Database, and the *Armidale Dumaresq Local Environmental Plan 2012* Schedule 5 (Environmental Heritage) in order to determine if there are any sites of archaeological significance or sensitivity located within the study area.
- Undertake a desktop review of relevant previous archaeological assessments to understand the local archaeological context and assist in predicting the likely occurrence of unrecorded archaeological sites or objects.
- Undertake a site inspection to identify any Aboriginal sites and areas of sensitive landforms.
- Prepare an archaeological due diligence assessment report determining if known objects or additional unrecorded objects are present within the study area, as well as to indicate whether further assessment and/or an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is required.

The OEH process involves “taking reasonable and practical measures to determine whether your actions will harm an Aboriginal object and, if so, what measures can be taken to avoid that harm” (OEH 2010:4).

If an AHIP application is required, OEH necessitate that it is supported by an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) prepared in line with the *'Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW'* (NSW OEH 2011), and a copy an approval for the development or infrastructure under Part 4 or Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW).

An archaeologically sensitive landscape is an area that has the potential for archaeological material to be present within. According to the Due Diligence Code of Practice, archaeologically sensitive landscapes can include areas:

- Within 200m of waters, or
- Located within a sand dune system, or
- Located on a ridge top, ridge line, headland, or
- Located within 200m below or above a cliff face, or
- Within 20m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth;
- And is on land that is not disturbed land

According to the *Due Diligence Code of Practice*, disturbed land is defined as any area that has been the subject of a human activity that has changed the land's surface, being changes that remain clear and observable (NSW DECCW 2010:18).

"Land is disturbed if it has been the subject of a human activity that has changed the land's surface, being changes that remain clear and observable.

Examples include ploughing, construction of rural infrastructure (such as dams and fences), construction of roads, trails and tracks (including fire trails and tracks and walking tracks), clearing vegetation, construction of buildings and the erection of other structures, construction or installation of utilities and other similar services (such as above or below ground electrical infrastructure, water or sewerage pipelines, stormwater drainage and other similar infrastructure) and construction of earthworks." (NSW DECCW 2010)

1.3 Due diligence assessment summary

As the proposed development complies with the definition of Regionally Significant Development, legislation requires that a Due Diligence Assessment is required, advancing to an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) only if the Due Diligence triggers the requirements for an AHIP. As per Section 2.4 of ARCs LEP (2012) consultation with Aboriginal Stakeholders is not a requirement under the Due Diligence process, unless there is the potential to harm items of cultural heritage (thus triggering an AHIP).

ELA has undertaken a desktop and site survey archaeological due diligence assessment for the proposed solar infrastructure, in order to determine if there are any registered Aboriginal sites, artefacts or archaeologically sensitive landscape features that require further assessment. This assessment involved a review of the AHIMS database as well as State and Heritage registers, followed by a site visit and inspection. Following these assessments, it has been concluded that the area of proposed works does not contain indigenous archaeological materials and has low archaeological potential, thus further works in the form of an ACHA are not required.



Figure 1: The Study Area.

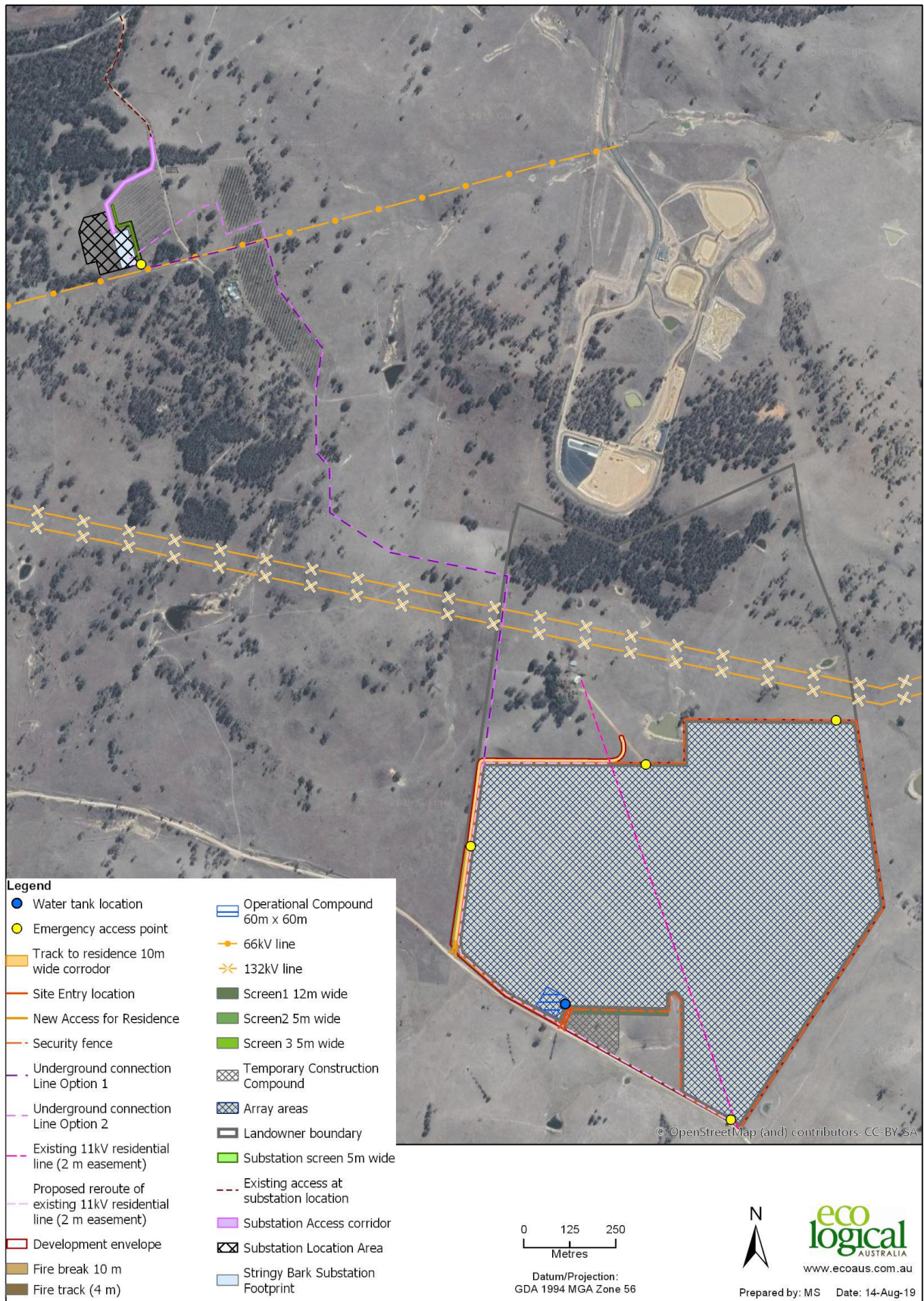


Figure 2: The Site

2. Assessment Process

2.1 Identify if the proposed activity will disturb the ground surface

The existing landscape and ground surface will be disturbed by the proposed development, consisting of numerous, shallow to deep, excavation works for solar infrastructure and access roads. This disturbance will be constrained to the proposed development envelope, the easement for the underground cable and an offsite substation (shown in **Figures 1-2**).

2.2 Database searches and known information sources

2.2.1 AHIMS search

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) is a database maintained by OEH and regulated under Section 90Q of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. AHIMS holds information and records regarding the registered Aboriginal archaeological sites (Aboriginal objects, as defined under the Act) and declared Aboriginal places that exist in NSW.

A search of the AHIMS database was conducted on 8 May 2019 to identify if any registered Aboriginal sites were present within, or adjacent to, the study area (**Appendix A**).

The AHIMS database search was conducted within the following coordinates – Datum: GDA, Zone: 56, Northing: 6608770 – 6628770, Easting: 372950 – 392950 covering an area of approximately 20 km².

The AHIMS search result showed that no items of cultural heritage or Aboriginal sites have been previously recorded within the study area. Three items of cultural heritage were found near the study area and are listed below in **Table 1**.

Table 1: AHIMS search result

AHIMS Site ID	Aboriginal sites are recorded near the above location
21-4-0095	GL ISO2
21-4-0096	GL ISO1
21-4-0026	TH/JA 3

The distribution of recorded Aboriginal sites within 20 km of the study area is shown in **Figure 3** (more local site views are shown in **Figure 4**). The frequencies of site types and contexts recorded within the AHIMS database search area are listed in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Frequencies of site types and contexts

Site Features	Number	%
Artefact	99	91.66
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)	1	0.93
Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred)	3	2.77
Artefact, Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred)	1	0.93
Stone Quarry, Artefact	1	0.93
Ceremonial Ring (Stone or Earth)	2	1.85
Restricted	1	0.93
Total	108	100%

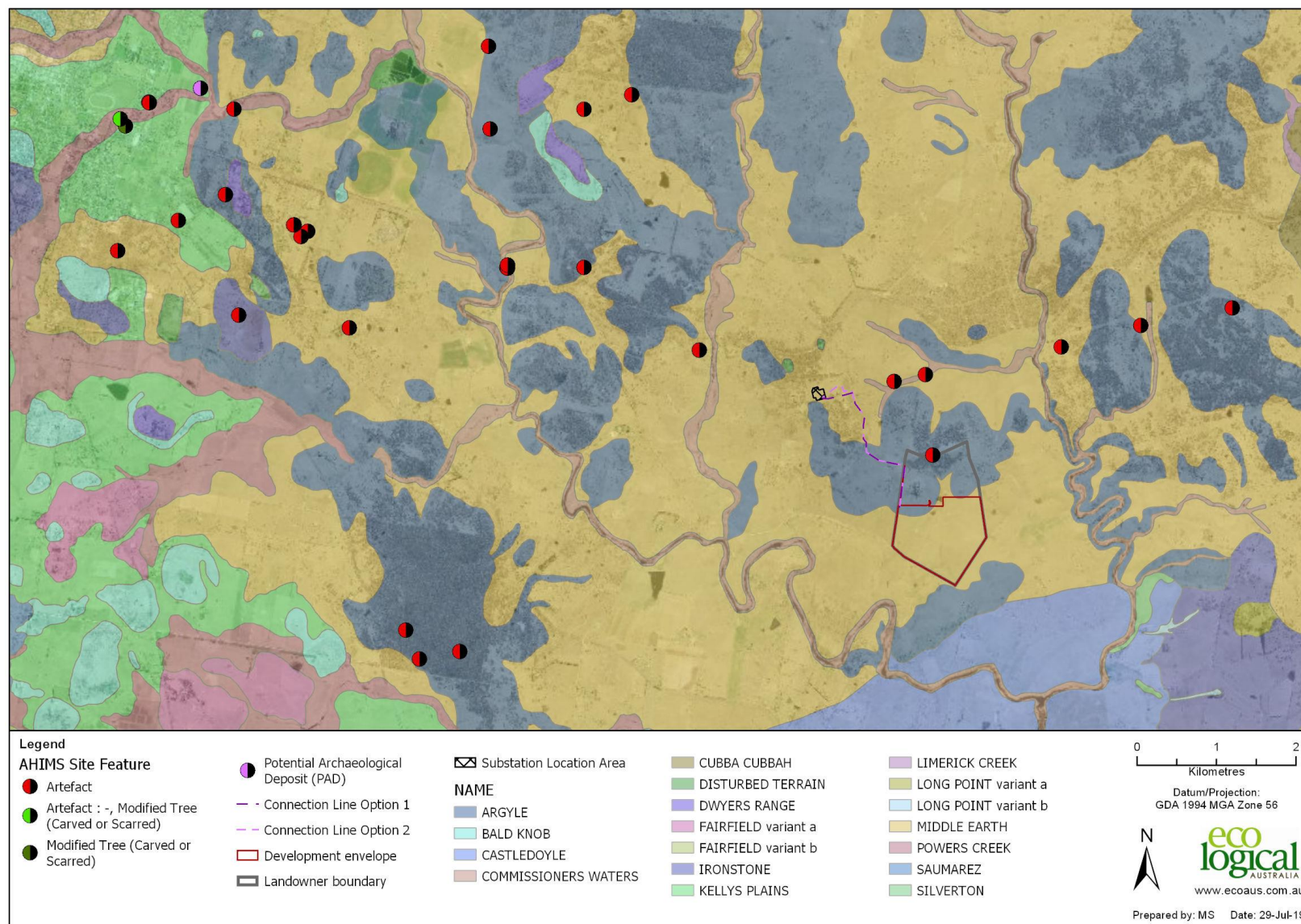


Figure 3: AHIMS registered sites within/in the vicinity of the Stringybark Site, with soil landscape features shown.

2.2.2 Previous archaeological investigations

Knuckey, G. Remnant Archaeology (2017). *Cultural Heritage Assessment – Metz Solar Farm on “Bayley Park”, Waterfall Way via Armidale. Armidale Local Government Area, New South Wales.* Prepared for Eco Logical Australia on behalf of Infinergy Pacific

This investigation was performed for Eco Logical Australia (ELA) on behalf of Infinergy Pacific. ELA was engaged by Infinergy Pacific to prepare an EIS for the development of a solar farm at Metz off Waterfall Way, approximately 18.5 km east of Armidale, and engaged Remnant Archaeology (RA) to conduct the archaeological survey.

The investigation was carried out by RA under the guidelines for a State Significant Development (SSD 7931) under Part V of the EP&A Act 1979. This assessment formed the cultural heritage requirements set out in the Secretary’s Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) and Environmental Assessment Requirements (EARs) set by the Department of Planning and Environmental (DPE) and Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) respectively. Surveys were undertaken with the assistance of interested Aboriginal Stakeholders, whom were also consulted by RA in regard to the development.

The report describes the field investigation undertaken and the responses and amendments made to the Cultural Heritage Assessment report (CHA) during Aboriginal stakeholder consultation.

Three low density artefact scatters were recorded during the survey, as well as 38 isolated artefacts, two scarred trees and a stone arrangement. Most sites were located on gentle slopes and within the undulating plains which were obviously disturbed, with fewer sites located within creek landform units.

Resulting from the investigation RA recommended the creation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) to indicate where find spots cannot be reasonably avoided, to be in place before ground works were undertaken. Additionally, all scarred trees and the stone arrangement required an exclusion barrier of 10m from any works, with scarred tree barriers to be removed after the works and a stock proof fence erected around the stone arrangement. All initial ground disturbance works were to be undertaken in accordance with the procedures set out in the CHMP.

In the event of an unanticipated find, all works RA indicates that all work must cease in the immediate area (buffer of 10m) and fenced, followed with the management protocols within the CHMP.

AECOM Australia Pty Ltd (2016). *Armidale Regional Landfill Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan.* Prepared for Armidale Dumaresq Council

This Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (AHMP) was prepared by AECOM on behalf of Armidale Regional Council (ARC) following and in response to the field investigation at the Armidale Regional Landfill development, which identified Aboriginal heritage values within the development area.

The assessment of Aboriginal heritage values, impacts and management procedures were identified in AECOMs initial Environmental Assessment. As a requirement of the Project Approval ARC committed to developing an AHMP, as listed in the Statement of Commitments (SoC) (Items 20 and 21) in AECOMs Environmental Assessment.

Two open artefact sites with Isolated silcrete flakes were discovered during the initial site investigation, one of which – GL ISO1 – was managed by its location in a vegetation conservation corridor and resultant avoidance of impact. The remaining artefact – GL ISO2 – was required to be fenced off at a minimum buffer distance of 5 m. Additional procedures and management strategies including consultation protocols, personnel cultural awareness training and management of unanticipated finds are listed in the AHMP.

Appleton, J. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS & REPORTS PTY LTD (2009). *The archaeological investigation for sites of Indigenous cultural significance for Part 3A Approval NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL LANDFILL Waterfall Way, east of Armidale, Northern Tablelands, NSW*. Report for AECOM on behalf of Armidale Dumaresq Council

This investigation was performed for AECOM on behalf of Armidale Dumaresq Council (ADC). AECOM was engaged by ADC to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the construction of a landfill facility at Gara off Waterfall Way, approximately 12 km east of Armidale (immediately adjoining the eastern boundary of the proposed Olive Grove site and northern boundary of the Stringybark site), on the Northern Tablelands, and AECOM engaged Archaeological Surveys & Reports Pty Ltd (ASR) to undertake an archaeological investigation of the property to meet the criteria for the EA.

The field investigation for this project was undertaken in May 2006 (Appleton 2006), but subsequently Council decided to seek approval for the project as a Part 3A “Major Project”, under ‘Section 6 Approvals’ of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (as amended).

In 2006 the scope of works was for ASR to conduct an archaeological investigation of the study area with the assistance of a representative of the Anaiwan Aboriginal Traditional Owners Resource and Cultural Heritage Management Association Incorporation (Anaiwan Aboriginal Traditional Owners), to identify any Aboriginal sites and relics that might be present. The results of the investigation were to be presented in a report, which was to include an assessment of the significance of any cultural relics or places identified, an appraisal of the options and opportunities arising from the discoveries, and clear recommendations for the management of those cultural resources.

Subsequently, when Council elected to apply for development approval as a Part 3A “Major Project” it became necessary to comply with the requirements of the “*Guidelines For Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation*” (DECC 2005). This requirement stipulates that “all interested Aboriginal stakeholders” should be consulted and informed of the proposed development. The brief required ASR to undertake the consultation with the interested Aboriginal stakeholders and to report on the consultation process and outcomes.

This report describes the field investigation of the site undertaken in May 2006, and the additional consultation with the registered Aboriginal stakeholders required for Part 3A Approval undertaken in March 2009.

Two isolated artefacts were recorded during the investigation, one in an eroding creek bank in the proposed road corridor, and the other on a saddle in partially cleared and significantly disturbed open woodland in the proposed Landfill Site.

On the recommendations of the Aboriginal Elders and ASR Council agreed to avoid impacting upon the two site locations, and to ensure that accidental damage did not occur to the site in the access road corridor a circle of vertical posts would be placed around site “GL ISO2” at a radius of 10m from the artefact. Given that Part 3A does not require a developer to make such a concession Council is to be applauded for its sensitivity.

Council is advised that both of the artefact locations were registered as Aboriginal sites on the AHIMS Site Register although the listing will not be a constraint to Part 3A Approval.

While Part 3A Approval would render any constraints that might otherwise have applied under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (as amended) ineffective, ASR recommends that in the interests of the Armidale Aboriginal Community Council should instruct their employees, sub-contractors, machine operators and representatives, whether working on the project Site or elsewhere, that in the event of any bone or stone artefacts, or discrete distributions of shell, or any objects of cultural association, being unearthed during earthmoving, work should cease immediately in the area of the find.

In the event that any bone cannot be clearly identified by a qualified archaeologist as being of animal remains the police are to be informed of its discovery, and officials and/or their representatives of Armidale LALC, Nyakka Aboriginal Culture Heritage Corporation Archaeological & Cultural Heritage Consultants, and the Manager, Planning & Aboriginal Heritage, DECC, Coffs Harbour, advised that the bone is subject to police investigation.

Work should not recommence in the area of the find, until both the police (if bone has been found) and those officials or representatives have given their permission to do so. Those failing to report a discovery and those responsible for the damage or destruction occasioned by unauthorised removal or alteration to a site or to archaeological material may be prosecuted under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, as amended.

Appleton, J. (1990). A report of the salvage operation of the archaeological material from the New England Traffic Education Centre, Armidale, N.S.W. Prepared for the New England Traffic Education Centre

This archaeological salvage survey was undertaken for the New England Traffic Education Centre Trust (NETEC) in relation to the development for a Traffic Education Centre in Armidale. A consultant (J. Appleton) was engaged by NETEC to undertake salvage works for artefacts identified during a previous survey undertaken for the development of the Traffic Education Centre, under the ‘Consent and Permit to Salvage’ dated the 30 July 1990.

The field survey and salvage were undertaken on an unknown date and resulted in the salvage of 22 artefacts within a creek terrace landscape unit, common in the New England Region. Artefacts salvaged were determined to be not in their original context and thus their significance in relation to the landform area was considered reduced.

The report concludes that the development of the New England Traffic Education Centre should proceed, with an archaeologist present for the initial stages of topsoil removal.

2.3 Landscape assessment

2.3.1 Existing environment

The study area is located within an undulating landscape, where elevation ranges between 990 - 1000 m Australian Height Datum (AHD). The study area (landholder boundary) has been historically cleared and grazed for sheep and cattle production and is typical of farmland in the region. A number of stock dams have been developed across the Site. A considerable portion of the study area has been cultivated for improved pasture. Surrounding land uses include:

- Agriculture;
- Transportation – Waterfall Way is a major road connecting Armidale to the coast; and
- Rural dwellings (Primary Production Small Lots) are located 1.9 km west of the Site.

Armidale Regional Council has identified and developed the new Armidale Regional Landfill on the adjoining block immediately to the north of the Site (Lot 1 DP 1206469). At the time of writing, construction for the landfill is well advanced, however, the landfill is not operational.

Historically, agriculture has been a significant industry in the Armidale region and still plays an important role in both the social and economic wellbeing of the region today. The proposed development involves a temporary diversification in land use of up to 91 ha for the Development Envelope, 2 ha for the Substation Location Area and 0.4 ha for the connection cable easement of two larger landholdings (665 ha) for the duration of the project life (estimated to be 30 years). These areas make up the Stringybark Site within the study area. This changed land use may temporarily reduce agricultural production, however; a lease agreement has been established to compensate the landholders for foregone income due to reduced agricultural production. In addition, once constructed limited sheep grazing could continue within the study area to control vegetation beneath the solar panels.

2.3.2 Soil landscapes

The study area lies within the New England Orogen and is located on the Sandon Beds (Early Carboniferous, within the Sandon Association, consisting of low-grade metasediments, volcanics and cherts), to a lesser extent Gurrakool Beds (Permian, within the Coffs Harbour Association, consisting of lithofelspathic wackes, felsic volcanics and interbedded slates) underlie parts of the study area. (ASUD, 2019; Geoscience Australia, 2019; Gilligan et al., 1992).

The Soil Landscapes of the Armidale map sheet (King, 2009) covers the Site and identified the following soil landscapes occurring over the project area (**Figure 3**):

- Middle Earth; and
- Argyle;

The Middle Earth landscape is mapped as occurring on the undulating plains, rise and foot slopes of the Sandon Beds. The Argyle soil landscape is mapped as occurring on the rolling low hills and occasional hills on greywacke/chert and related sediments (King, 2009).

These soil landscapes have an erodibility potential ranging from moderate to very high, becoming extreme in areas associated with drainage. The site is dominated by Kurosols, Kandosols, and to a lesser extent Tenosols (Alluvial) along drainage lines.

2.3.3 Hydrology

The main hydrological features are Burying Ground Creek (Strahler 4th order, approx. 1.48 km west), Commissioners Waters (Strahler 6th order, 0.64 km south) and Gara River (Strahler 6th order, approx. 1.3 km east). Within the site these are fed by five Strahler 1st order streams, which develop into two Strahler 2nd order streams before making confluence with Commissioners Waters outside of the Site. All watercourses within the site have been modified by practices to improve pastures for grazing (ploughing and planting of exotic pastures), damming, show high levels of erosivity and are highly ephemeral (**Figure 4**).

2.3.4 Due Diligence Code of Practice

A number of factors influence the likelihood of Aboriginal objects being present in the landscape. The CoP states that further investigation in the form of a visual inspection must be conducted if activities are proposed to be:

- within 200 m of waters, or
- located within a sand dune system, or
- located on a ridge top, ridge line or headland, or
- located within 200 m below or above a cliff face, or
- within 20 m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth
- and is on land that is not disturbed land

The definition of disturbed land is as follows:

“Land is disturbed if it has been the subject of a human activity that has changed the land’s surface, being changes that remain clear and observable.”

Examples include ploughing, construction of rural infrastructure (such as dams and fences), construction of roads, trails and tracks (including fire trails and tracks and walking tracks), clearing vegetation, construction of buildings and the erection of other structures, construction or installation of utilities and other similar services (such as above or below ground electrical infrastructure, water or sewerage pipelines, stormwater drainage and other similar infrastructure) and construction of earthworks” (NSW DECCW 2010).

The area of proposed works is not located within 200 m above or below a cliff face, within 20 m of or in a cave, rock shelter, headland, sand dune or in a cave mouth. Ten 1st order and two 2nd order ephemeral streams are located within the site, with an additional four 1st order streams within 200 m of the site. These watercourses are not expected to have high archaeological potential given their ephemerality, location on highly disturbed land and strong erosion potential. Whilst one artefact has been found within the adjoining Armidale Landfill Development site in a 2nd order stream that originates within the 1060 Waterfall Way landholding, it is not considered to be in its original context, in addition, no cultural heritage items have been found in its upstream tributaries. A minor ridgeline runs along the northern edge of the landholder boundary and is traversed by the Site where the proposed cable easement runs. A single artefact has been found on this ridgeline within a vegetation

conservation reserve and is located within the nearby Armidale Landfill Development. This ridgeline is not expected to have high archaeological potential outside of the conservation reserve area, given its location on highly erosive soils and land which is extensively disturbed by agricultural ploughing, grazing and land modification, as well as subsurface excavation associated with the existing transmission easement. No items of cultural heritage were found during the detailed site investigation. The lack of archaeologically sensitive landscape features within the area indicates the site to have a low archaeological potential. The existing landscape shows high levels of previous disturbance due to agricultural workings, cleared and modified land. Despite the assessed low level of archaeological potential, expected subsurface disturbance is likely to be high and it is therefore possible that further works may encounter unexpected finds. If objects of cultural significance are suspected to be found, works must cease and protocol undertaken as defined in Section 4 of this report.

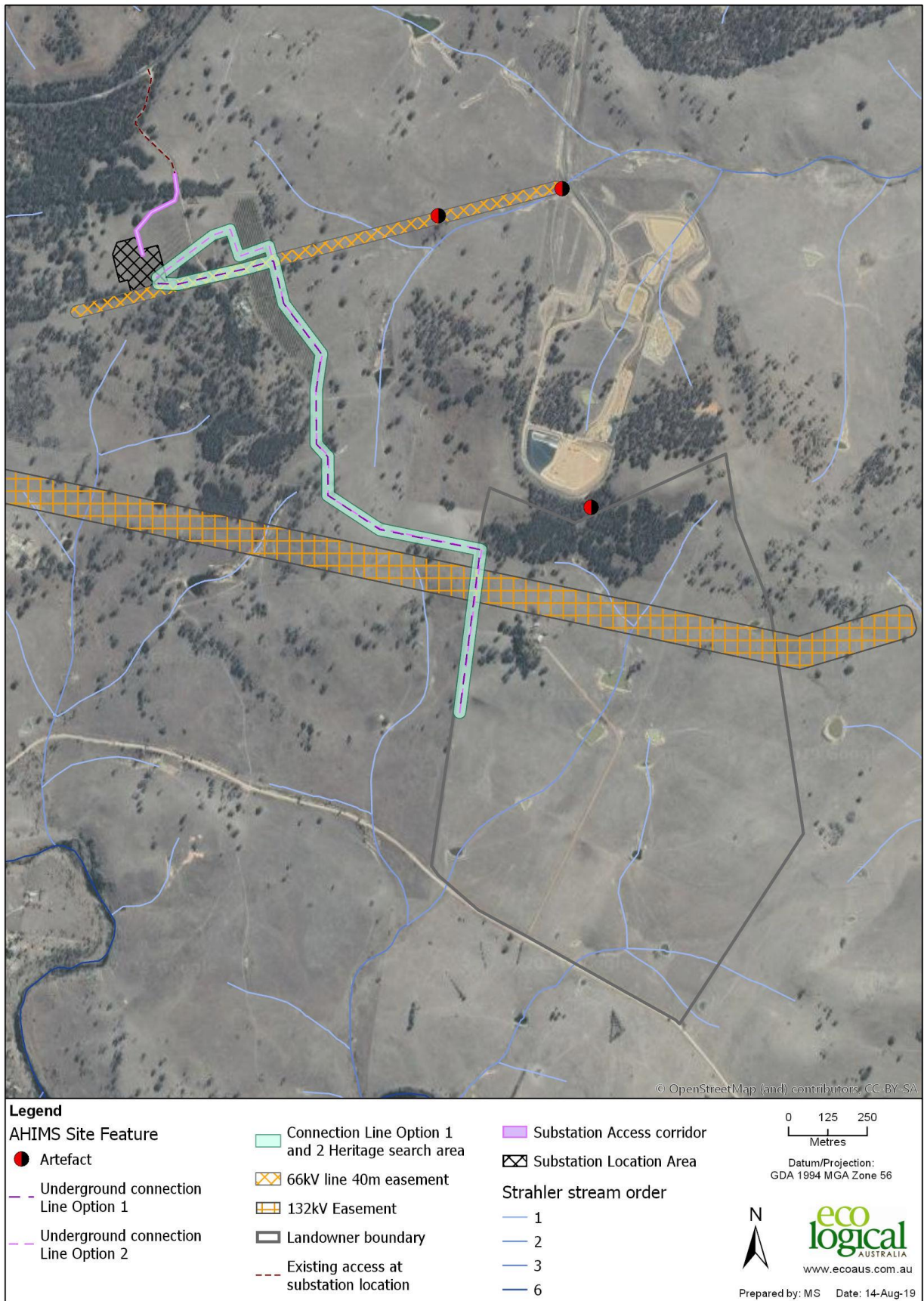


Figure 4: AHIMS sites within the Stringybark study area, with local hydrology shown. Note that AHIMS data have been adjusted to be projected into the correct datum and site context.

2.4 Predictive model

Based on the material evidence and range of archaeological sites across the region, it is clear that Aboriginal people have been utilising the land and resources within New England Highlands for thousands of years. The predictive model outlined in **Table 3** below has been developed for the study area based on the AHIMS search results, landscape assessment and regional and local Aboriginal archaeological context outlined above.

Table 3: Predicative model

Site Type	Description
Open camp sites / stone artefact scatters / isolated finds	Open camp sites represent past Aboriginal subsistence and stone knapping activities, and include archaeological remains such as stone artefacts and hearths. This site type usually appears as surface scatters of stone artefacts in areas where vegetation is limited and ground surface visibility increases. Isolated finds may represent a single item discard event, or be the result of limited stone knapping activity. The presence of such isolated artefacts may indicate the presence of a more extensive, in situ buried archaeological deposit, or a larger deposit obscured by low ground visibility. There are previously recorded stone artefact scatters and isolated artefacts close by the site. The development and impact boundary have been adjusted to avoid these features. Given that no works are to be undertaken outside of this boundary, there will be no impact on these cultural features.
Potential Archaeological Deposit	Potential Archaeological Deposits (or PADs) are areas where there is no surface expression of stone artefacts, but due to a landscape feature there is a strong likelihood that the area will contain buried deposits of stone artefacts. Areas that were observed to have artefacts may have PADs in the local surrounding landscape, as they are nearby to prominent ridgelines and high points in the local landscape. These areas (to the north of the site leading up to the ridgeline) have been avoided by the Development Envelope. No other areas within the site boundary are expected to host PADs due to prior disturbance and lack of conducive landscape features.
Scarred or carved trees	Tree bark was utilised by Aboriginal people for various purposes, including the construction of shelters (huts), canoes, paddles, shields, baskets and bowls, fishing lines, cloaks, torches and bedding, as well as being beaten into fibre for string bags or ornaments (sources cited in Attenbrow 2002: 113). Trees may also have been scarred in order to gain access to food resources (e.g. cutting toe-holds so as to climb the tree and catch possums or birds), or to mark locations such as tribal territories. Such scars, when they occur, are typically described as scarred trees. No Scarred Trees are present within the local area or were located within the site.
Axe grinding grooves	Grinding grooves are the physical evidence of tool making or food processing activities undertaken by Aboriginal people. The manual rubbing of stones against other stones creates grooves in the rock; these are usually found on flat areas of abrasive rock such as sandstone. No grinding groove features are present within the site and the local area does not contain any outcropping locations necessary for these archaeological features.
Bora / ceremonial	Aboriginal ceremonial sites are locations that have spiritual or ceremonial values to Aboriginal people. Aboriginal ceremonial sites may comprise natural landforms and, in some cases, will also have archaeological material. Bora grounds are a ceremonial site type, usually consisting of a cleared area around one or more raised earth circles, and often comprised of two circles of different sizes, connected by a pathway, and accompanied by ground drawings or mouldings of people, animals or deities, and geometrically carved designs on the surrounding trees. No landscape or alteration features are present to suggest a bora / ceremonial ground.
Burial	These types of sites are most likely to occur in locations of Aboriginal and settler interaction, such as on the edge of pastoral properties or towns. Artefacts located at such sites may involve the use of introduced materials such as glass or ceramics by Aboriginal people or be sites of Aboriginal

Site Type	Description
	occupation in the historical period. No records indicate interaction or burials within or near this site. These features were not observed in the field survey.
Contact / historical sites	Artefacts located at such sites may involve the use of introduced materials such as glass or ceramics by Aboriginal people or be sites of Aboriginal occupation in the historical period. No records indicate contact near this site and there are no historical places associated with the site.

2.5 Impact avoidance assessment

Database searches for indigenous archaeological items returned results within the regional vicinity with the closest site being within 100m of the northern edge of the study area and numerous other sites within 20 km of the area

The proposed works will not impact any known Aboriginal cultural heritage sites as the development envelope excludes the AHIMS registered sites near the study area. Due to the existing highly disturbed condition of the site and the lack of archaeologically sensitive landscape features there is low potential for an intact subsurface archaeological deposit to exist in the study area. Further works in the form of an Aboriginal Cultural Assessment (ACHA) is not required.

2.6 Visual inspection

A visual inspection of the study area was undertaken by ELA Archaeologists Andrew Crisp and Matt Elsley on May 13 and 14, 2019 and again on July 15, 2019 by Matt Elsley. Visual inspection aimed to identify Aboriginal and historical objects if present and assess the archaeological potential of the study area.

The Proposed Site consists of mostly cleared agricultural land with a small stand of trees near the dwelling located just south of the transmission easement, and a larger area of trees to the north of the Site. A network of eroded and ephemeral drainage lines that are intersected by small stock dams throughout the site, run to the south to make confluence with Commissioners Waters approximately 640 m away. The area is generally undulating and increases in relief and elevation towards the north of the site which forms a small ridgeline (**Figures 5a-5b**). One isolated artefact has been found on the northern aspect of this ridgeline approximately 80 m north of the study area. The area of ridgeline within the vegetation conservation reserve to the north of the site may have PADs present as indicated by the isolated find and the prominence of this landscape feature in the local area and so has been avoided by the development envelope. No items of archaeological significance or landscape features conducive to PADs are present within the development envelope. The area of road directly outside the south-western corner of the site – proposed for an additional site entrance - was also surveyed (15 July 2019, Matt Elsley) and was found to be highly disturbed and deeply excavated as evidenced from the road verges and is not archaeologically significant (**Figure 5c**).

The Site has high surface visibility due to extensive agricultural disturbance and drought conditions preventing excessive groundcover, with subsurface features exposed by erosional drainage lines and dam excavation works (**Figures 5d-5e**). Tracks and unsealed roads are present within the Site. Lithic

material present throughout the Site is consistent with the underlying rock types, being highly fractured metasedimentary material unsuitable for stone tool production (**Figure 5f**).

The location of the proposed transmission easement that will connect the Proposal to the offsite substation is shown on **Figure 2**. The easement and substation area were surveyed as part of the assessment. No archaeological items or archaeologically significant landscape features were found to be associated with the easement or substation.

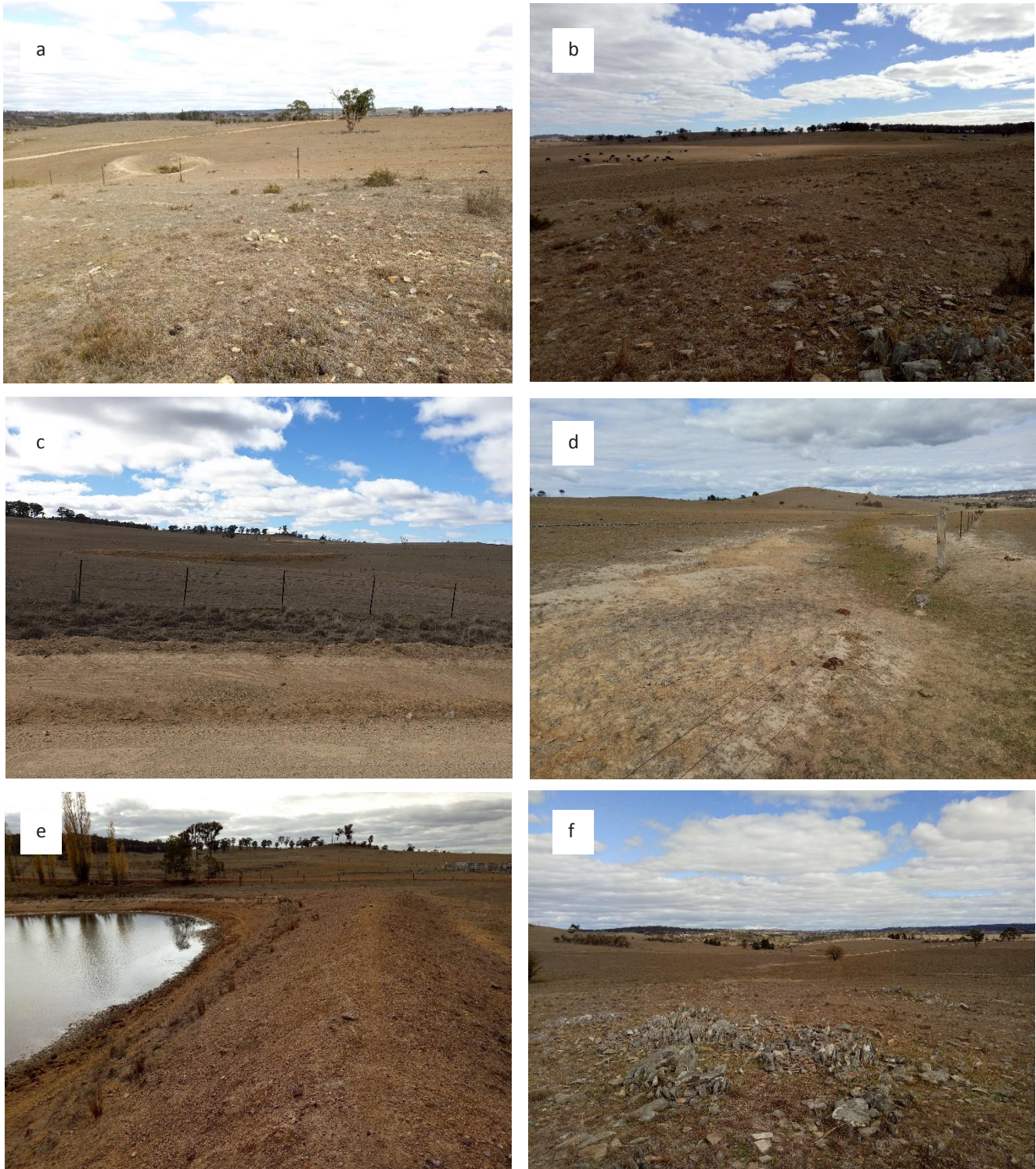


Figure 5: Site Description (a) General site overview showing surface exposure and disturbance, and undulating topography, Stringybark; note prominent ephemeral drainage and roads. (b) The Stringybark site, showing increasing relief to the north and ridgeline (over which the Landfill Development is located) in the far background. (c) Area of road just outside the south-west corner of the Stringybark site, where a site entrance is proposed. (d) Example of prominent ephemeral and erosive drainage lines, these areas provide good survey access to subsurface materials. (e) An example of a dam at the Stringybark site, this is typical of the form of dams throughout the site, often deeply excavated with soil stockpiling. (f) Example of the lithic material common throughout the Stringybark site, shown here in outcrop.

3. Statutory Requirements

Aboriginal objects and places in NSW are afforded protection under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW) regardless if they are registered on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) register or not. Strict penalties apply for harm to an Aboriginal object or place without a defence under the Act. Under Section 87 of the Act there are five defences to causing harm to an Aboriginal object:

- The harm was authorised under an AHIP.
- By exercising due diligence and be able to demonstrate this.
- The actions complied with a code of practice as described in the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009, for example, undertaking test excavation in accordance with the '*Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW*'.
- It was a low-impact activity or omission under the regulation and where you don't know that an Aboriginal object is already present.
- Was an exemption under Section 87A, for example emergency fire-fighting act or bush fire hazard reduction work within the meaning of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*.

If an AHIP application is required, the OEH necessitate that it is supported by an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) prepared in line with the 'Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW (OEH 2010)', and a copy an approval for the development or infrastructure under Part 4 or Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW).

The Due Diligence process has revealed no Aboriginal cultural items that will be affected by the Proposal and therefore does not require either an AHIP or ACHA to continue development.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

The purpose of the Aboriginal heritage due diligence is to identify if there are registered Aboriginal sites and/or sensitive landforms which may indicate the presence of potential Aboriginal sites which may therefore require further assessment and approval under Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

ELA has undertaken searches of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database maintained by the Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH), a review of available background reports and data and a visual inspection of the proposed Site.

No recorded Aboriginal objects or sites are located within the proposed development envelope, offsite substation or associated cable easement route, or were discovered during the detailed site survey, with the area of proposed works exhibiting low archaeological potential in a highly disturbed local setting.

A summary of this Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment can be found in **Appendix B**.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this due diligence and the requirement of the NP&W Act the following is recommended:

- Due to the low potential for any intact archaeological deposits and the highly disturbed setting, further works in the form of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) is not required.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the NPW Act regardless if they are registered on AHIMS or not. If suspected Aboriginal objects, such as stone artefacts are located during future works, works must cease in the affected area and an archaeologist called in to assess the finds. If the finds are found to be Aboriginal objects, OEH must be notified under section 89A of the NPW Act. Appropriate management and avoidance or approval under a section 90 AHIP should then be sought if Aboriginal objects are to be moved or harmed.
- In the extremely unlikely event that human remains are found, works must immediately cease, and the NSW Police should be contacted. If the remains are suspected to be Aboriginal, OEH must also be contacted at this time to assist in determining appropriate management.

References

- ASUD, (2019). Australian Stratigraphic Units Database. Geoscience Australia. URL; <https://www.ga.gov.au/data-pubs/datastandards/stratigraphic-units>. Accessed 15 July 2019.
- Attenbrow, V. (2002). Sydney's Aboriginal Past: investigating the archaeological and historical records (p. 113). Sydney: UNSW Press.
- Geoscience Australia, (2019). Australian Region and Surface Geology, Interactive Maps. Geoscience Australia. URL; <http://maps.ga.gov.au/interactive-maps/#/theme/minerals/map/geology>. Accessed 15 July 2019.
- Gilligan L.B., Brownlow J.W., Cameron R.G. and Henley H.F., (1992). Dorrigo - Coffs Harbour 1:250 000 Metallogenic Map, 1st edition, Geological Survey of New South Wales, Sydney.
- King, DP. (2009). Soil Landscapes of the Armidale 1:100,000 sheet map, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Sydney.
- NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water (DECCW). (2010). *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*. Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water, Sydney.
- NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH). (2011). *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW*. NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Sydney.

Appendix A AHIMS Search Results



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AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Search Result

Purchase Order/Reference : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar

Client Service ID : 419354

Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd - Sydney

Date: 08 May 2019

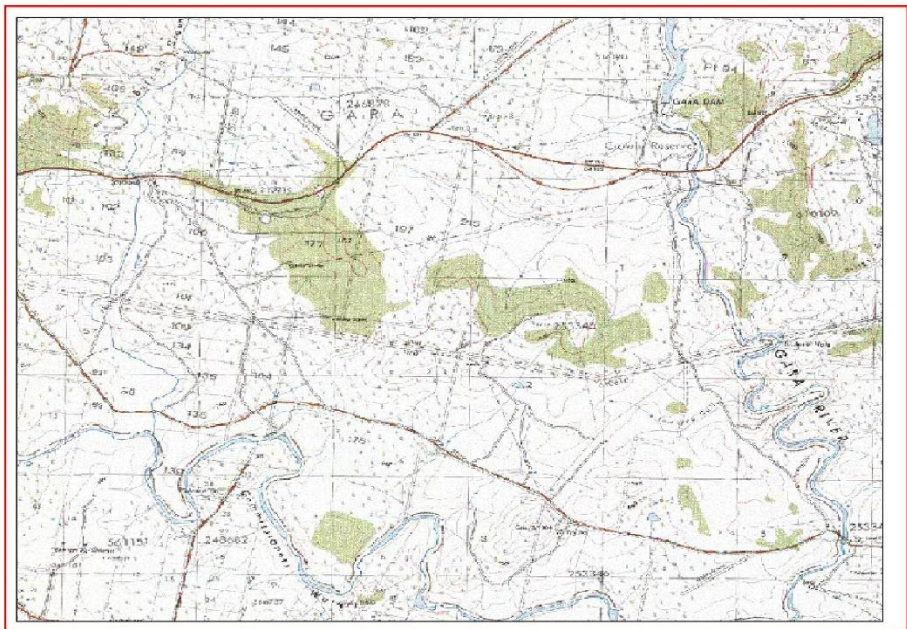
PO Box 12 668 Old Princes Hwy
Sutherland New South Wales 1499
Attention: Andrew Crisp

Email: andrew.crisp@ecoaus.com.au

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 379950 - 385950, Northings : 6615770 - 6621770 with a Buffer of 0 meters, conducted by Andrew Crisp on 08 May 2019.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of the Office of the Environment and Heritage AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

5	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *

Local Basic AHIMS Search



AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Search Result

Purchase Order/Reference : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar

Client Service ID : 419359

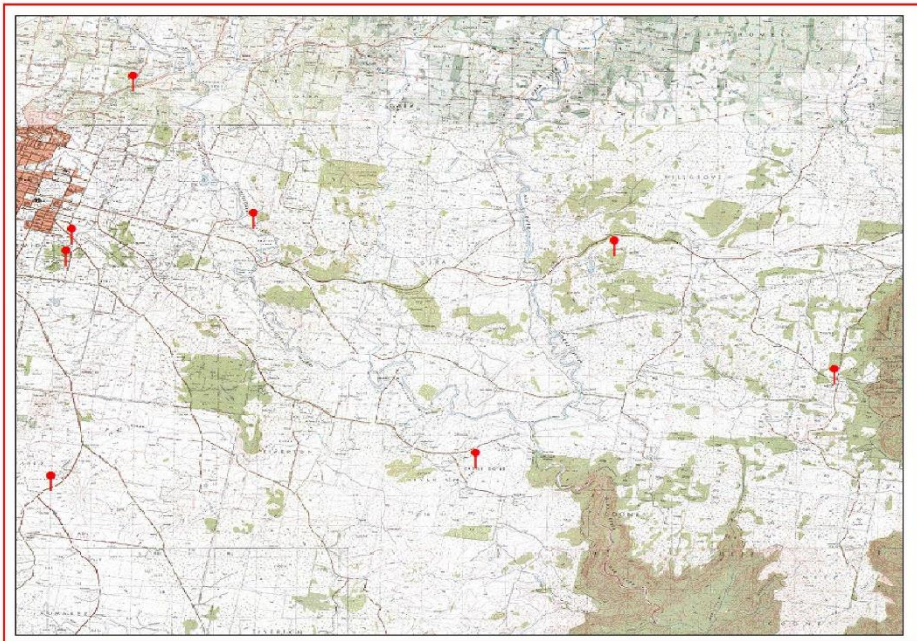
Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd - Sydney
PO Box 12 668 Old Princes Hwy
Sutherland New South Wales 1499
Attention: Andrew Crisp
Email: andrew.crisp@ecoaus.com.au

Date: 08 May 2019

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 372950 - 392950, Northings : 6608770 - 6628770 with a Buffer of 0 meters, conducted by Andrew Crisp on 08 May 2019.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of the Office of the Environment and Heritage AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

108	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *

Basic Regional AHIMS Search

Extensive AHIMS Search Results



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AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar

Client Service ID : 419359

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
21-4-0014	Blue Hole/Armidale; Contact	AGD	56	384500	6614500	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	97511
	Recorders			Mr.Luke Godwin				Permits		
21-4-0017	Woodbyne Quarry; Contact	AGD	56	374650	6624600	Open site	Valid	Stone Quarry: -, Artefact: -	Quarry	
	Recorders			K Gonan				Permits		
21-4-0018	Gara Falls Reserve Contact	AGD	56	384600	6614300	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	97511
	Recorders			G Giopoulos				Permits		
21-4-0021	JAA 1 (NETEC) Contact	AGD	56	373900	6621600	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	1867
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0022	JAC 1; Contact	AGD	56	376300	6624600	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	1989
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0023	JAR 1; Contact	AGD	56	373490	6625120	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	633
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0025	TH/IA 1 Contact	AGD	56	374660	6620410	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	2172
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0026	TH/IA 3 Contact	AGD	56	382750	6619340	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	2172.100973
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0027	TH/IA 5 Contact	AGD	56	386000	6620280	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	2172.100973
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0028	TH/IA 7 Contact	AGD	56	392750	6621170	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	2172
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0031	CA-Wilds (1); Contact	AGD	56	378030	6621010	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	533
	Recorders			Miss.Cheryl Ahoy				Permits		
21-4-0032	CA-Wilds (2); Contact	AGD	56	379000	6622998	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	
	Recorders			Miss.Cheryl Ahoy				Permits		
21-4-0033	CA-Wilds (3); Contact	AGD	56	378039	6621000	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	
	Recorders			Miss.Cheryl Ahoy				Permits		
21-4-0034	CA-Wilds (4); Contact	AGD	56	379000	6621010	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	
	Recorders			Miss.Cheryl Ahoy				Permits		
21-4-0035	CA-Wilds (5); Contact	AGD	56	378040	6621040	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	
	Recorders			Miss.Cheryl Ahoy				Permits		
21-4-0042	HGC 1; Contact	AGD	56	380450	6619970	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	1126
	Recorders			Wendy Bock, J Burke				Permits		
21-4-0058	TH/IA2 Contact	AGD	56	376050	6620250	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		3172
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 08/05/2019 for Andrew Crisp for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone :56, Eastings : 372950 - 392950, Northings : 6608770 - 6628770 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : 20km by 20km search area. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 108

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Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar

Client Service ID : 419359

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
21-4-0059	TH/IA4 Contact	AGD	56	385000	6620010	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 1		2172
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0060	TH/IA6 Contact	AGD	56	387150	6620500	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		2172
	Recorders			Mr.John Appleton				Permits		
21-4-0057	Threlfall Aboriginal Campsite Contact	AGD	56	384750	6613650	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		1333
	Recorders			Ray Fife				Permits		
21-4-0071	EL 1 Contact	AGD	56	377820	6622750	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 2		
	Recorders			Robert Paton				Permits		
21-4-0072	Gara artefact 1 Contact	AGD	56	384860	6614350	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 2		
	Recorders			Karen Moorhouse				Permits		
21-4-0053	S74 Contact	AGD	56	379600	6623180	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	
	Recorders			Alice Gorman				Permits		
21-1-0064	S71 Contact	AGD	56	382260	6628430	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	99974
	Recorders			Alice Gorman				Permits		
21-4-0127	Clarks Gully Artefact 1 Contact	GDA	56	392766	6621342	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 1		
	Recorders			Remnant Archaeology				Permits		
21-4-0128	Clarks Gully Artefact 2 Contact	GDA	56	392778	6621358	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 1		
	Recorders			Remnant Archaeology				Permits		
21-1-0076	S73 Contact	AGD	56	381930	6626310	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	99974
	Recorders			Alice Gorman				Permits		
21-1-0062	S72 Contact	AGD	56	382150	6627600	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	99974
	Recorders			Alice Gorman				Permits		
21-1-0057	S72 Contact	AGD	56	382150	6627600	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	
	Recorders			Alice Gorman				Permits		
21-4-0073	Gara Scarred Tree 1 Contact	AGD	56	384602	6613850	Open site	Valid	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred): 1		
	Recorders			Mr.Bruce Cohen				Permits		
21-4-0074	Gara Artefact 2 Contact	AGD	56	384598	6613854	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 3		
	Recorders			Mr.Bruce Cohen				Permits		
21-4-0080	Site 1 Dumaresq Creek Contact	AGD	56	374600	6623000	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 1		
	Recorders			Isabel McBryde				Permits		
21-4-0081	Restriction applied. Please contact ahims@cnviroment.nsw.gov.au. Contact					Open site	Valid			
	Recorders			Isabel McBryde, Barry Gain				Permits		

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Your Ref/PO Number : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar
Client Service ID : 419359

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Eastings	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0177	Imbota NR 03	GDA	56	377439	6616181	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0178	Imbota NR	GDA	56	376932	6616086	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0179	Imbota NR 01	GDA	56	376760	6616450	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0169	Bay Park Artefact Conc. 01	GDA	56	391617	6623090	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 1		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0170	Bay Park Artefact Conc. 02	GDA	56	390693	6623656	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 1		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0171	Bay Park Artefact Conc. 03	GDA	56	389778	6625165	Open site	Valid	Artefact: 1		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0051	Gara Open Camp Site	AGD	56	384650	6614500	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	97511
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0008	Wayford Station,Armidale;	AGD	56	380400	6626400	Open site	Valid	Ceremonial Ring (Stone or Earth): -	Bora/Ceremonial	
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0038	Ja/Thal 5;	AGD	56	384650	6626450	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	2489
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0039	Ja/Thal 4;	AGD	56	385860	6627530	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	2489
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0043	Rockvale 8;	AGD	56	373330	6625310	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Isolated Find	
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0044	Rockvale 2c;	AGD	56	373260	6625120	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Isolated Find	
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0045	Rockvale 2a;	AGD	56	373280	6625130	Open site	Valid	Ceremonial Ring (Stone or Earth): -	Bora/Ceremonial	
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0046	RL2;	AGD	56	373410	6625580	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Open Camp Site	3380
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0047	RL1;	AGD	56	373330	6625440	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Isolated Find	3380
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-1-0049	Rockvale 9;	AGD	56	373320	6625270	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -	Isolated Find	
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar
Client Service ID : 419359

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Eastings	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
21-4-0090	PANAROMA COOKES ROAD PAD	GDA	56	374180	6623262	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD): 1		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0095	GL ISO2	GDA	56	383143	6619426	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0096	GL ISO1	GDA	56	383235	6618414	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0173	Dumaresq Dam scarred Tree No.2	GDA	56	373236	6622788	Open site	Valid	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred): -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0185	commissioners waters	GDA	56	373761	6624589	Open site	Valid	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred): -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0186	Waterfall way rest area (Armidale)	GDA	56	373171	6622876	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -, Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred): -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0187	crown land site Ant nest 2	GDA	56	374493	6621925	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0180	Dangseligh Road crown land site	GDA	56	373138	6621219	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0181	Dangseligh Road crown land site Ant nest 2	GDA	56	375527	6621464	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0182	Dangseligh Road crown land site Ant nest 3	GDA	56	375443	6621398	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0183	Dangseligh Road crown land Ant nest 1	GDA	56	375355	6621545	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0184	Dangseligh crown land knapping site Ant nest 1	GDA	56	375350	6621544	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0174	Unc Sports Centre	GDA	56	373529	6623088	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0175	Unc Dam	GDA	56	373536	6623080	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		
	Contact	Recorders						Permits		
21-4-0176	testing only - Bay Park Artefact 01	GDA	56	391617	6623090	Open site	Valid	Artefact: -		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 08/05/2019 for Andrew Crisp for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone :56, Eastings :372950 - 392950, Northings :6608770 - 6628770 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : 20km by 20km search area. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 108

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar
Client Service ID : 419359

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
21-4-0145	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 11	GDA	56	392309	6621968	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0146	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 12	GDA	56	392438	6622405	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0147	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 13	GDA	56	392430	6622426	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0148	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 14	GDA	56	392203	6622695	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0149	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 15	GDA	56	392466	6622349	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0150	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 16	GDA	56	392387	6622506	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0151	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 17	GDA	56	392463	6622324	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0152	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 18	GDA	56	392452	6622253	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0153	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 19	GDA	56	392390	6621934	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0154	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 20	GDA	56	392564	6622282	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0155	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 21	GDA	56	390672	6623588	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0156	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 22	GDA	56	389899	6623931	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0157	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 23	GDA	56	389847	6624183	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0158	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 24	GDA	56	389887	6624420	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-1-0156	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 25	GDA	56	389740	6625677	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-1-0157	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 26	GDA	56	389632	6625886	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-1-0158	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 27	GDA	56	389660	6625884	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 08/05/2019 for Andrew Crisp for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone :56, Eastings : 372950 - 392950, Northings : 6608770 - 6628770 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : 20km by 20km search area. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 108

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar
Client Service ID : 419359

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
21-1-0050	Rockvale 10;	AGD	56	373300	6625250	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-	Open Camp Site	
	Contact	Recorders				Mr.John Appleton		Permits		
21-1-0051	Rockvale 2b;	AGD	56	373330	6625330	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-	Open Camp Site	
	Contact	Recorders				S Sutton		Permits		
21-1-0081	El. 3	AGD	56	381700	6627950	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		
	Contact	Recorders				Robert Paton		Permits		
21-4-0056	El. 2	AGD	56	377800	6623790	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		
	Contact	Recorders				Vicki Parsley		Permits		
21-1-0125	Blue Wren Open Site 1, ARM 113	AGD	56	374220	6626790	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 13		
	Contact	Recorders				Mr.Phil Hunt		Permits		
21-1-0126	Blue Wren Open Site 2, ARM 114	AGD	56	374245	6626980	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 2		
	Contact	Recorders				Mr.Phil Hunt		Permits		
21-1-0127	Armisdale Walking Track Open Site 1, ARM 115	AGD	56	374540	6626970	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 3		
	Contact	Recorders				Mr.Phil Hunt		Permits		
21-4-0135	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 01	GDA	56	391028	6623492	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0136	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 02	GDA	56	391166	6622291	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0137	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 03	GDA	56	391622	6621803	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0138	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 04	GDA	56	391631	6622111	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0139	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 05	GDA	56	391562	6623341	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0140	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 06	GDA	56	391797	6622925	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0141	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 07	GDA	56	391836	6622502	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0142	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 08	GDA	56	392141	6622522	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0143	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 09	GDA	56	391952	6621647	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		
21-4-0144	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 10	GDA	56	392041	6621647	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology		Permits		

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AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 12937 - Gara/Argyle Solar
Client Service ID : 419359

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
21-1-0159	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 28	GDA	56	389534	6625610	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-4-0159	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 29	GDA	56	389742	6623991	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-4-0160	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 30	GDA	56	389800	6624027	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-4-0161	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 31	GDA	56	389627	6623719	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-4-0162	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 32	GDA	56	389669	6623860	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-4-0163	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 33	GDA	56	389755	6623897	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-4-0164	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 34	GDA	56	389498	6624413	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-1-0160	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 35	GDA	56	389509	6625579	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-1-0161	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 36	GDA	56	389457	6625705	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	
21-4-0165	Bay Park Isolated Artefact 37	GDA	56	389334	6624650	Open site	Valid	Artefact :-		103687
	Contact	Recorders				Doctor.Graham KNUCKEY,Remnant Archaeology			Permits	

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Appendix B Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment Summary

Due diligence is defined in the CoP as *“taking reasonable and practical steps to determine whether a person’s actions will harm an Aboriginal object and, if so, what measures can be taken to avoid that harm”*. The following section relates to the generic due diligence process as applied to the study area.

Step 1 – Will the activity disturb the ground surface or any culturally modified trees?

Yes. The proposed works will require surface disturbance associated with solar infrastructure and access roads.

There are no culturally modified trees recorded within the area of proposed works.

Step 2 – Are there any a) relevant confirmed site records on AHIMS, other sources of information, or b) landscape features that are likely to indicate presence of Aboriginal objects?

Consequently, if your proposed activity is:

Within 200m of waters, or

located within a sand dune system, or

located on a ridge top, ridge line or headland, or

located within 200m below or above a cliff face, or

within 20m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth;

and is on land that is not disturbed land then you must go to step 3.

“Land is disturbed if it has been the subject of a human activity that has changed the land’s surface, being changes that remain clear and observable.

Examples include ploughing, construction of rural infrastructure (such as dams and fences), construction of roads, trails and tracks (including fire trails and tracks and walking tracks), clearing vegetation, construction of buildings and the erection of other structures, construction or installation of utilities and other similar services (such as above or below ground electrical infrastructure, water or sewerage pipelines, stormwater drainage and other similar infrastructure) and construction of earthworks.”(DECCW 2010)

The area of proposed works is not located within 200 m below or above a cliff face, within 20 m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth.

Though waters are located within 200m of the site, these have been assessed as not archaeologically significant.

A ridgeline is also located within 200 m of the site, but has been assessed as having a low archaeological potential and is therefore not archaeologically significant.

Two registered AHIMS sites are located within 200 m of the proposed area of works. These are accounted for in the development envelope design and the impact area avoids these features.

This assessment found that the area of proposed works displays high levels of previous ground disturbance. Due to previous agricultural workings and clearing, it is unlikely that an intact subsurface archaeological deposit will be present within the site. The local area surrounding the site is moderately to highly disturbed due to previous land clearing, project development and similar agricultural works.

No landscape features within the area of proposed works indicate high potential for expected archaeological deposits.

Step 3 – Can harm to Aboriginal objects listed on AHIMS or identified by other sources of information and/or can the carrying out of the activity at the relevant landscape features be avoided?

The proposed works will not impact on any known Aboriginal archaeological sites.

Regardless of the low archaeological potential of the area, predictive modelling indicates that potential subsurface Aboriginal sites are not likely to be impacted during these works.

Step 4 – Does the desktop and visual assessment confirm that there are Aboriginal objects or that they are likely?

The evidence collected during the assessments demonstrates that the site area is situated locally within a low archaeological potential landform unit, and that Aboriginal sites are not expected to be present.

Conclusions

The purpose of the Aboriginal heritage due diligence is to identify if there are registered Aboriginal sites and/or sensitive landforms which may indicate the presence of Aboriginal sites and may therefore require further assessment and approval under Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

ELA has undertaken searches of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database maintained by the Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH), a review of available background reports and data and a visual inspection of the proposed works.

No recorded Aboriginal objects or sites are located within the Croft property or were discovered during the survey, with the area of proposed works exhibiting low archaeological sensitivity in a highly disturbed local setting.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this due diligence and the requirement of the NP&W Act the following is recommended:

- Due to the low potential for any intact archaeological deposits and the highly disturbed setting, further works in the form of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) is not required.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the NPW Act regardless if they are registered on AHIMS or not. If suspected Aboriginal objects, such as stone artefacts are located during future works, works must cease in the affected area and an archaeologist called in to assess the finds. If the finds are found to be Aboriginal objects, the OEH must be notified under section 89A of the NPW Act. Appropriate management and avoidance or approval under a section 90 AHIP should then be sought if Aboriginal objects are to be moved or harmed.
- In the extremely unlikely event that human remains are found, works should immediately cease and the NSW Police should be contacted. If the remains are suspected to be Aboriginal, the OEH may also be contacted at this time to assist in determining appropriate management.