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Construction Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan



Prepared For:

Schwartz Family Company Pty Ltd

Project:

SFSF Stage 2 - Solar Energy Program

Date and Revision:

May 21, 2021 – Rev

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Revision History					
Rev No.	Description	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Authorised by	Date
-	Internal Draft	M. Stephens	D. Haines	A. James	28/04/21
1	Final	M. Stephens J.Berry (Wedgetail Project Consulting)	D. Haines J.Berry (Wedgetail Project Consulting)	A. James	21/05/21

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this Construction Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (CAHMP) is to develop a framework for the protection of Aboriginal Heritage Sites during the construction, operations and maintenance of the Schwartz Family Solar Farm #2 at 127 Wills Hill Road, Lovedale.

1.2 Objectives

The objective of this CAHMP is to provide a framework for the protection of known Aboriginal Heritage sites and management of unknown sites during construction, operation and maintenance activities.

1.3 Interactions with other documents

This CAHMP is a supporting document to the Schwartz Family Solar Farm Stage 2 Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) – Solar Farm No.2) dated March 12, 2020 (prepared by Kleinfelder) and the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment Statement dated February 2020 (prepared by Insite Heritage). This CAHMP should be read in conjunction with these documents and all other specialist reports provided as part of the SEE.

2. Project Summary

2.1 The Proponent

The proponent is Schwartz Family Solar Farm Stage 2, which is owned in full by the Schwartz Family Company. Should the asset be divested at any phase during the construction, operation or maintenance of the Project, the implementation of this CAHMP would also be divested to the new owners.

2.2 Project Site

The Schwartz Family Solar Farm #2 is to be located on a land parcel located at 127 Wills Hill Road, Lovedale, NSW 2325, approximately 7km north-west of Cessnock, within the Hunter Valley, which is comprised within the Cessnock City Council Regional, Local Government Area (LGA).

The indicative layout of the Solar Farm which was submitted in the SEE for approval, is illustrated in Figure 2.

2.3 Land Ownership

The Solar Farm and ancillary features would occupy approximately 10.3ha and be located and contained within:

- Part Lot 1 DP 1048155

This land is privately owned by the Schwartz Family Company.

2.4 Project Description

The solar farm includes (at DA submission) the following components:

- Solar Components including
 - Up to 17,450 PV panels on fixed mounting structures
 - Electrical connections
 - Inverter stations (x2) where the inverters are containerised within the Solar PV Arrays
 - Underground cabling / collection circuits
- Electrical infrastructure including
 - 11kV Switch Room
 - LV Switch Room
- Temporary access road
- Temporary ancillary facilities and construction compounds
- Perimeter security fencing, and
- One (1) removable maintenance storage container.

At the end of the operational phase (likely 25 - 30 years) the infrastructure would be reviewed and either:

- Updated - the plant would be updated for continued use (subject to relevant approvals) or
- Decommissioned - the plant will be permanently removed.

Should the decision be made to remove the plant, then the Site would be returned as close as possible to its original condition and will be decommissioned as per standard solar plant isolation and disconnection procedures.

3. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Insite Heritage, in conjunction with the Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council completed a due diligence inspection of the property in February 2020. The inspection identified 18 stone artefacts and one potentially scarred tree that were grouped into two sites for recording within the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). The location of these sites and AHIMS groupings is shown by **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**.

Sites A100 and A107 appear to be on the boundary of the solar farm security fence (when viewed at the map scale of Figure 1), but are actually more than 5m from the security fence, and 15m from the solar array and will be avoided by the development, see **Figure 3**.

4. Construction Management Protocols

To ensure that the sites identified as containing aboriginal artefacts are not disturbed during operation and maintenance activities, the layout of the proposed solar farm has been designed to ensure the all identified artefacts are outside the fenced solar array area.

In order to avoid disturbance of the identified sites the following management protocols will be adopted:

1. **Construction personnel and farm management staff are to be suitably inducted prior to undertaking works on the property and informed of the penalties for unlawful damage of known artefact sites.**
2. **Prior to any disturbance of the site, steel star pickets with bunting tape will be installed under the oversight of a Mindaribba LALC (familiar with site identification) and the Project Manager around each artefact site within 50m of the solar array area AND 20m from the vegetation screen area adjacent to Wills Hill Road, that will include an adequate buffer to avoid impacts.**
3. **The solar array boundary fence will then be surveyed and pegged.**
4. **Clearing will then occur within the pegged boundary fence area.**
5. **The security fence will be installed securing the construction area and limiting the potential for disturbance of any identified artefacts during construction, operations or maintenance.**
6. **Planting of the vegetation screen will be undertaken having regard to avoiding disturbance of identified sites.**
7. **If any Aboriginal objects are identified during clearing and earthworks, work must immediately cease in the area and the NSW Heritage must be notified immediately. Examples of artefacts are shown in the attached photographs provided by Insite Heritage will assist personnel understand what may be an artefact.**
8. **On completion of the security fence construction and the landscape planting, bunting will be removed and where there is risk of incidental damage through farm management activities (e.g. if adjacent to track) a 3-strand plain wire fence will be erected around the potentially affected sites to limit access.**

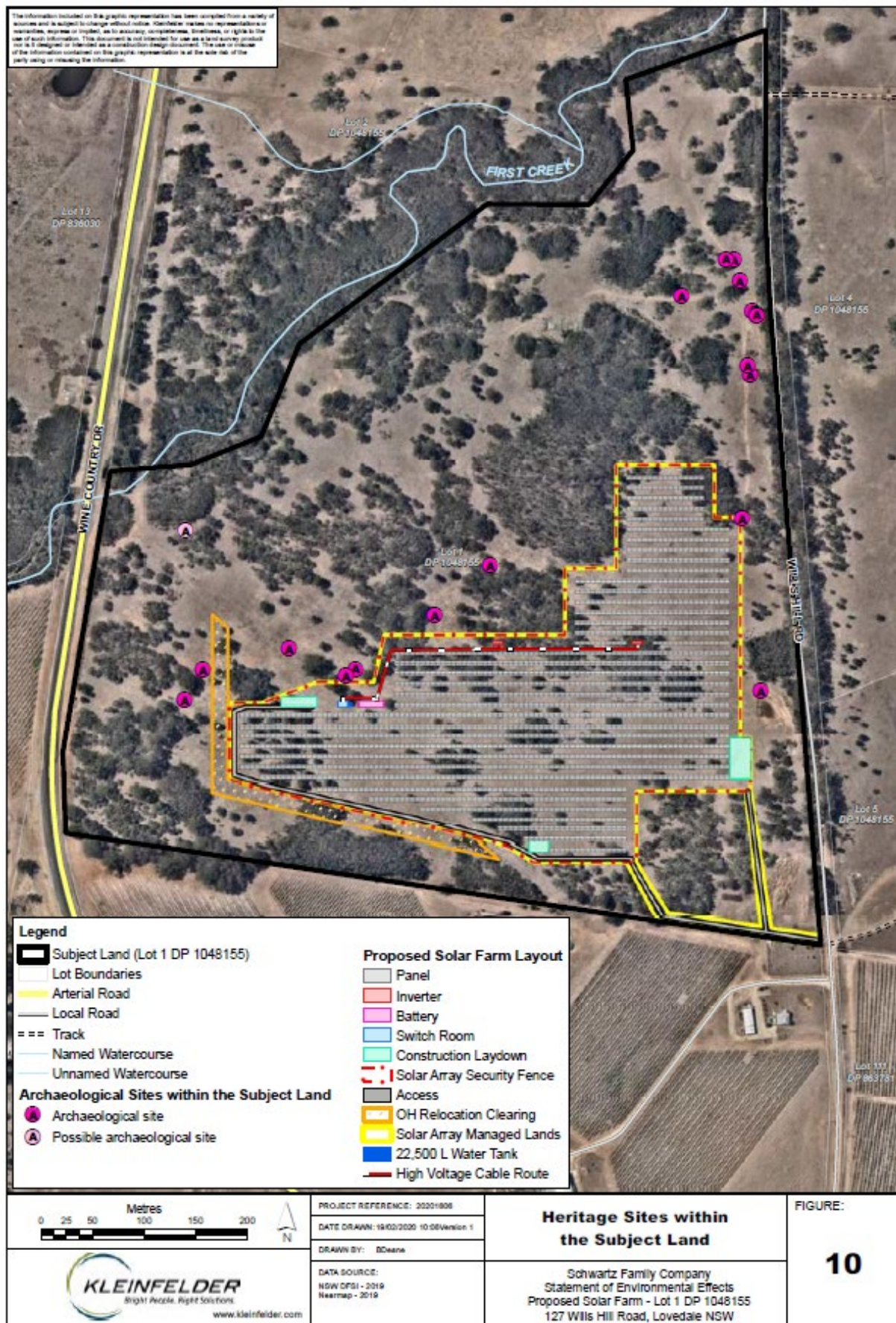


Figure 1: Artefact locations recorded within the SEE and the proposed Solar Farm Layout

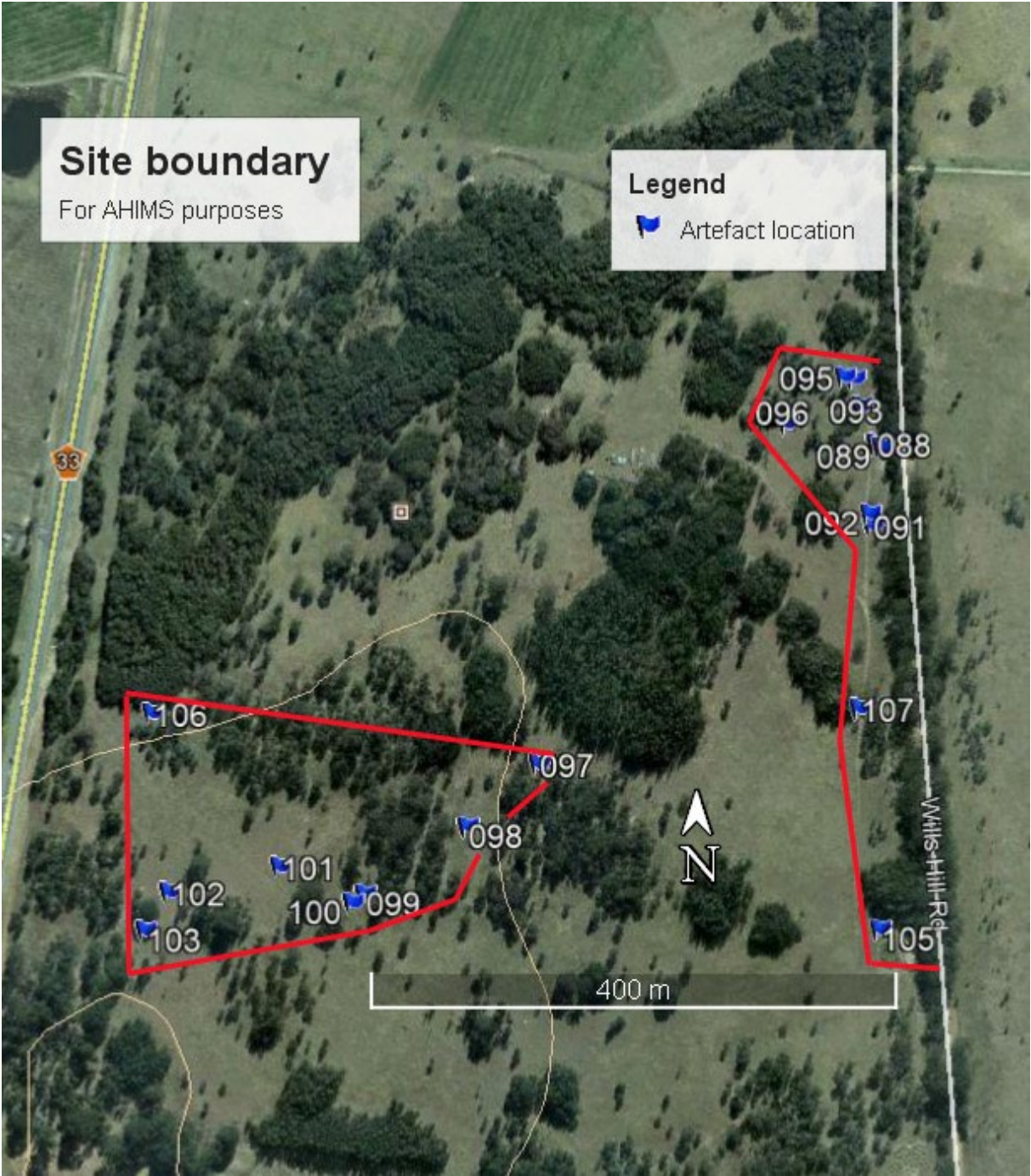


Figure 2: Artefact locations and the assigned AHIMS sites.

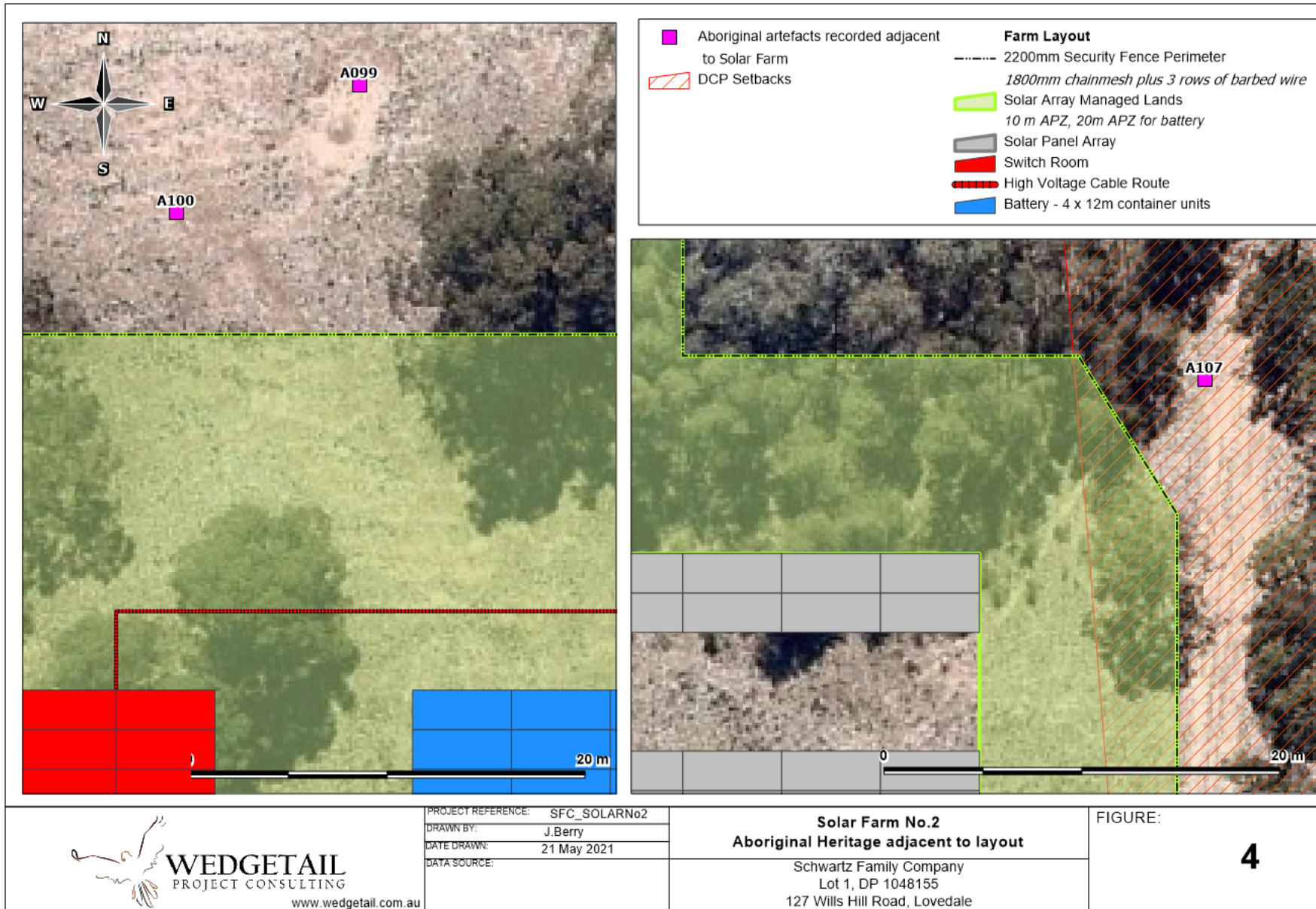


Figure 3: Artefact locations relative to the solar farm array.

ATTACHMENT 1: EXAMPLES OF ARTEFACTS (COURTESY OF INSITE HERITAGE)

Types of Stone Artefacts - Cores and Flakes





Grinding Flat



Muller / Pestle



Talk to one of our specialists today.

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