



Title of Proposal - Longreach Solar Farm, 50758 Landsborough Highway, Longreach

Section 1 - Summary of your proposed action

Provide a summary of your proposed action, including any consultations undertaken.

1.1 Project Industry Type

Energy Generation and Supply (renewable)

1.2 Provide a detailed description of the proposed action, including all proposed activities.

The proposed action will involve the clearing of up to 30.74 hectares (ha) of land within Lease Area and Access Easement on Lot 140 POR5777, being located at 'Camden Park', 50758 Landsborough Highway, Longreach.

The Project involves the construction of a solar farm, within the lease area, consisting of solar panels, steel module mounts, electrical transformers and inverters, electrical wiring, telecommunications equipment, electrical control structures, an informal employee parking area, perimeter fencing and access gates, and security lighting arrangements.

1.3 What is the extent and location of your proposed action? Use the polygon tool on the map below to mark the location of your proposed action.

Area	Point	Latitude	Longitude
Project Area	1	-23.444206895666	144.36249795501
Project Area	2	-23.449952608893	144.3615909401
Project Area	3	-23.448512218883	144.35558965852
Project Area	4	-23.448896285653	144.35555489588
Project Area	5	-23.448784273303	144.3550315436
Project Area	6	-23.444014757076	144.35586882173
Project Area	7	-23.444190752757	144.36248057434
Project Area	8	-23.444206895666	144.36249795501
Access	1	-23.44982445642	144.3615909401
Access	2	-23.44982445642	144.36160832076
Access	3	-23.449904577563	144.36202695884
Access	4	-23.450352617788	144.36235848014
Access	5	-23.452577244159	144.37108102385
Access	6	-23.452977439743	144.3709765251
Access	7	-23.452977439743	144.37092416963
Access	8	-23.452625274517	144.37104626253



Area	Point	Latitude	Longitude
Access	9	-23.450352617788	144.36234109948
Access	10	-23.449920521525	144.36200957818
Access	11	-23.44982445642	144.3615909401

1.5 Provide a brief physical description of the property on which the proposed action will take place and the location of the proposed action (e.g. proximity to major towns, or for off-shore actions, shortest distance to mainland).

The Project Area is located approximately nine (9) kilometres east of Longreach, Qld, adjacent to the Landsborough Highway and Central Line railway. The Project Area includes a 50ha portion of Lot 140 on POR5777 identified as 'Lease Area' on the attached ROL Approved Plans, with a 30ha development footprint. The remaining area will accommodate the boundary setbacks. The Project Area also includes an Access Easement over Lot 140 to provide lawful access to the Lease Area via the existing access arrangements off the Landsborough Highway.

The subject site is located in a rural area with the majority of surrounding land uses being agricultural in nature. A few farm buildings are clustered sporadically within adjacent properties. The nearest residential premises is located approximately two (2) kilometres north-east of the Project Area.

An existing 33 kilovolt power line runs along the western side of the Landsborough Highway road corridor which will provide the connection point for the facility to the main grid network.

1.6 What is the size of the development footprint or work area?

30.74

1.7 Is the proposed action a street address or lot?

Lot

1.7.2 Describe the lot number and title. Lot 140 on POR5777

1.8 Primary Jurisdiction.

Queensland

1.9 Has the person proposing to take the action received any Australian Government grant funding to undertake this project?

No



1.10 Is the proposed action subject to local government planning approval?

Yes

1.10.1 Is there a local government area and council contact for the proposal?

Yes

1.10.1.0 Council contact officer details

1.10.1.1 Name of relevant council contact officer.

Catherine Garry

1.10.1.2 E-mail

assist@longreach.qld.gov.au

1.10.1.3 Telephone Number

(07) 4658 4111

1.11 Provide an estimated start and estimated end date for the proposed action.

Start date 03/2017

End date 03/2018

1.12 Provide details of the context, planning framework and State and/or Local government requirements.

The Project has received a Development Permit for Material Change of Use (Renewable Energy Facility), issued by the Longreach Regional Council on 7 June 2016 (Council Reference DA 15/16-055), and subsequent Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot (Dividing land into Parts by Agreement), issued by the Longreach Regional Council on 30 September 2016 (Council Reference. DA 16/17-018). As part of the development assessment process, the development applications were referred to the state Department of Transport and Main Roads who provided a concurrence agency response in relation to the Project. Please see attached Decision Notices issued by Longreach Regional Council, in accordance with Section 334 of the Sustainable Planning Act 2009. The Development Permits issued by Longreach Regional Council provide approval to construct a 15 megawatt photovoltaic facility including associated infrastructure and the creation of a 50ha lease over the Project Area.

1.13 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken, including with Indigenous stakeholders.



Community consultation has been undertaken in April and August 2016, and in January 2017. Canadian Solar has also engaged a local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Specialist to provide a risk assessment and management guidance for construction of the project. The risk assessment is proposed to include a site visit with representatives of the relevant Aboriginal People (Bidjara People) to seek their written agreement with its findings.

1.14 Describe any environmental impact assessments that have been or will be carried out under Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation including relevant impacts of the project.

Longreach Solar Farm Biodiversity Report prepared by DC Solutions, dated 4 April 2016 and addendum prepared by DC Solutions for additional survey, dated 3 November 2016

1.15 Is this action part of a staged development (or a component of a larger project)?

No

1.16 Is the proposed action related to other actions or proposals in the region?

No



Section 2 - Matters of National Environmental Significance

Describe the affected area and the likely impacts of the proposal, emphasising the relevant matters protected by the EPBC Act. Refer to relevant maps as appropriate. The [interactive map tool](#) can help determine whether matters of national environmental significance or other matters protected by the EPBC Act are likely to occur in your area of interest. Consideration of likely impacts should include both direct and indirect impacts.

Your assessment of likely impacts should consider whether a bioregional plan is relevant to your proposal. The following resources can assist you in your assessment of likely impacts:

- [Profiles of relevant species/communities](#) (where available), that will assist in the identification of whether there is likely to be a significant impact on them if the proposal proceeds;
- [Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance](#);
- [Significant Impact Guideline 1.2 – Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land and Actions by Commonwealth Agencies](#).

2.1 Is the proposed action likely to impact on the values of any World Heritage properties?

No

2.2 Is the proposed action likely to impact on the values of any National Heritage places?

No

2.3 Is the proposed action likely to impact on the ecological character of a Ramsar wetland?

No

2.4 Is the proposed action likely to impact on the members of any listed threatened species (except a conservation dependent species) or any threatened ecological community, or their habitat?

Yes

2.4.1 Impact table

Species	Impact
Curlew Sandpiper (<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>)	From a PMST report (attached) the Curlew



Species	Impact
	<p>Sandpiper (Critically Endangered, Migratory) has the potential to occur in the Project Area (DoEE 2017a). Searches of other databases has revealed there are no records of the species within 10km of the proposed site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Following a two day ecology survey at the site, no individuals of this species were recorded as present and no preferred habitat (water bodies / intertidal mudflats in sheltered coastal areas (DoEE 2017a)) was observed(DC Solutions 2016). The site is dominated by grassland (90% RE 9.4.1; <i>Astrebla lappacea</i> ± <i>Aristida latifolia</i> ± <i>Panicum decompositum</i> grassland on Cretaceous sediments (Least Concern) and 10% RE 4.9.7 <i>Astrebla</i> spp. grassland wooded with <i>Acacia tephрина</i> ± <i>A. cambagei</i> and <i>Atalaya hemiglaucа</i> on Cretaceous sediments (Least Concern). The species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.</p>
Squatter Pigeon (southern) (<i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i>)	<p>From a PMST report (attached) the Squatter Pigeon (Vulnerable) has the potential to occur in the Project Area (DoEE 2017a). The species displays a preference for open-forests to sparse, open-woodlands and scrub, dominated by <i>Eucalyptus</i>, <i>Corymbia</i>, <i>Acacia</i> or <i>Callitris</i> species, in modified vegetation communities, within three kilometres of waterbodies or courses (DoEE 2017b).Following a two day ecology survey at the site, no individuals of this species were recorded as present (DC Solutions 2016) and there are no known records within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). The species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area</p>
Painted Honeyeater (<i>Grantiella picta</i>)	<p>From a PMST report (attached) the Painted Honeyeater (Vulnerable) has the potential to occur in the Project Area (DoEE 2017a). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). The preferred habitat of this species includes eucalypt forests/woodlands, and riparian woodlands; particularly woodlands which</p>



Species	Impact
	contain a higher number of mature trees, as these host more mistletoes(DoEE 2015). The site is dominated by grassland (90% RE 9.4.1; <i>Astrelba lappacea</i> ± <i>Aristida latifolia</i> ± <i>Panicum decompositum</i> grassland on Cretaceous sediments (Least Concern) and so does not contain suitable habitat for the species. The species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Star Finch (Eastern & Southern) (<i>Neochmia ruficauda ruficauda</i>)	The Star Finch (Endangered) is listed as having the potential to occur or have species habitat occurring the Project Area (DoEE 2017a). Following a fauna survey at the site, no individuals of this species were recorded as present within the Project Area (DC Solutions 2016) nor are there any known records of the species within 10km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Preferred habitat of the species includes grasslands and grassy woodlands that are located close to bodies of fresh water; also known to occur in cleared or suburban areas such as along roadsides and in towns (DoEE 2017d). The species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Australian Painted Snipe (<i>Rostratula australis</i>)	The Australian Painted Snipe (Endangered) is listed as potentially occurring or having species habitat occurring the area proposed for development (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Preferred habitat for this species is known to include shallow terrestrial freshwater wetlands, although also uses inundated or waterlogged grasslands (DoEE 2017e). The species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Greater bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>)	The Greater Bilby (Vulnerable) is listed as potentially occurring or potentially having species habitat occurring in the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within



Species	Impact
	10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Habitats occupied by the greater bilby include open tussock grassland, mulga woodland/shrub land on ridges and rises, and hummock grassland in plains and alluvial areas (DoE 2016). The species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>)	The Koala (Vulnerable) is listed as potentially occurring or potentially having species habitat occurring in the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). As such, based on this species not being encountered during on-ground surveys, and lack of preferred habitat available, the species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Julia Creek Dunnart (<i>Sminthopsis douglasi</i>)	The Julia Creek Dunnart (Vulnerable) is listed as potentially occurring or having species habitat occurring the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Preferred habitat of the species is areas characterised by heavy cracking clay soils, dominated by Mitchell (<i>Astrebla</i> spp.) and Flinders (<i>Iseilema</i> spp.) grass species (DoEE 2017f). As such, based on this species not being encountered during on-ground surveys, and lack of preferred habitat available, the species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
<i>Sclerolaena walkeri</i>	<i>S. walkeri</i> (Vulnerable) is listed as likely to occur or have species habitat occurring in the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). The species is known to occur on saline river beds (DoE 2008), which do not occur in the Project Area. As such,



Species	Impact
	based on this species not being encountered during on-ground surveys, and lack of preferred habitat available, the species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Plains Death Adder (<i>Acanthophis hawkei</i>)	The Plains Death Adder (Vulnerable) is listed as potentially occurring or having species habitat occurring in the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Preferred habitat of the species is known to consist of flat, treeless, cracking-soil riverine floodplains, which is not found at the site (DoE 2011). As such, based on this species not being encountered during on-ground surveys, and lack of preferred habitat available, the species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.

2.4.2 Do you consider this impact to be significant?

No

2.5 Is the proposed action likely to impact on the members of any listed migratory species, or their habitat?

Yes

2.5.1 Impact table

Species	Impact
Summary	The PMST search indicates the potential for several migratory/marine bird species to intermittently occur in the Project Area. Given the transient nature of the species, the lack of significant water bodies or wetland systems at the site, or in the vicinity of the site, and that the site is dominated by grasslands, it is unlikely that any of the listed species would be anything but occasional transient visitors. On this basis, it is unlikely that the Project will impact any of these species. Having regard for this, the



Species	Impact
	proposed action is unlikely to impact on members of any listed migratory species or their habitat, however a likelihood of occurrence assessment has been provided in this impact table to justify this outcome.
Fork-tailed Swift (<i>Apus pacificus</i>)	The Fork-tailed Swift (Migratory) is listed as likely to occur or have species habitat occurring in the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Given the distance from coastal and marine areas, and that the species is known to be exclusive aerial, is it considered the species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Grey Wagtail (<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>)	The Grey Wagtail (Migratory) is listed as potentially occurring or potentially having species habitat occurring in the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Given the transient nature of the species and lack of sightings in the region of the site (Birdlife Australia 2015), it is considered the species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Yellow Wagtail (<i>Motacilla flava</i>)	The Yellow Wagtail (Migratory) is listed as potentially occurring or potentially having species habitat occurring in the Project Area (DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). Given the transient nature of the species it is considered the species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.
Curlew Sandpiper (<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>)	Preferred habitat and potential impacts provided in Table 2.4.1 above.
Latham's Snipe (<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>)	The Latham's Snipe (Migratory) is listed as potentially occurring or potentially having species habitat occurring in the Project Area



Species	Impact
	(DoEE 2017). Following a two day ecology survey, no individuals of this species were recorded at the site (DC Solutions), nor are there any known records of the species within 10 km of the site (QLD Government Wildlife Online, 2017). The species is unlikely to occur within the Project Area.

2.5.2 Do you consider this impact to be significant?

No

2.6 Is the proposed action to be undertaken in a marine environment (outside Commonwealth marine areas)?

No

2.7 Is the proposed action likely to impact on any part of the environment in the Commonwealth land?

No

2.8 Is the proposed action taking place in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?

No

2.9 Will there be any impact on a water resource related to coal / gas / mining?

No

2.10 Is the proposed action a nuclear action?

No

2.11 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth agency?

No

2.12 Is the proposed action to be undertaken in a Commonwealth Heritage Place Overseas?

No



2.13 Is the proposed action likely to impact on any part of the environment in the Commonwealth marine area?

No



Section 3 - Description of the project area

Provide a description of the project area and the affected area, including information about the following features (where relevant to the project area and/or affected area, and to the extent not otherwise addressed in Section 2).

3.1 Describe the flora and fauna relevant to the project area.

Flora

Flora surveys were undertaken on 29th and 30th March 2016, and involved two belt transects approximately 600 metres long and two (2) metres wide. A supplementary flora survey was conducted on 3/11/2016 from the southern boundary of the site to the approximate grid connection point. The findings of both surveys were (DC Solutions 2016):

- 1.The site comprises 90% RE 9.4.1; *Astrebla lappacea* ± *Aristida latifolia* ± *Panicum decompositum* grassland on Cretaceous sediments (Least Concern) and 10% RE 4.9.7 *Astrebla* spp. grassland wooded with *Acacia tephрина* ± *A. cambagei* and *Atalaya hemiglauca* on Cretaceous sediments (Least Concern);
- 2.The wooded area in RE 4.9.7 is regrowth associated with the runoff from a small dam,;
- 3.No listed threatened flora species identified from state and federal databases were observed on the site;
- 4.There are no wetlands, watercourses or essential habitat on the site;
- 5.The site is not listed as containing any protected plants; and
- 6.The site is not listed as high value under the Land Suitability Map.

Fauna

Fauna surveys were undertaken on 29th and 30th March 2016; involving two 30-minute bird surveys and one spotlighting session for 30 minutes searching for nocturnal mammals. A supplementary fauna survey was conducted on the evening of the 2/11/2016, involving spotlighting for nocturnal animals. Fauna field surveys sought to characterise habitat values for fauna, and identify the occurrence of conservation-significant species. The findings of the survey were (DC Solutions 2016):

No listed threatened fauna species identified from state and federal databases were observed on the site;



There are no wetlands, watercourses or essential habitat on the property; and

The site is not listed as high value under the Land Suitability Map.

3.2 Describe the hydrology relevant to the project area (including water flows).

The Project Area is relatively flat with some gentle undulations that increase moving east towards the natural drainage line located outside the Project Area.

3.3 Describe the soil and vegetation characteristics relevant to the project area.

In relation to the soil characteristics of the Project Area, the *Digital Atlas of Australian Soils* (1991) describes the soils within the Longreach area as:

"Brown clays (Ug5.32) of moderate depth (30-36 in.) are dominant, but similar grey clays (Ug5.26, Ug5.22) are also common. The soils often contain much gypsum. In some areas, particularly adjacent to lateritic scarps or eroded lateritic mesa-like hills, red-brown clays (Ug5.37, Ug5.38) are locally prominent, together with small areas of red loamy duplex soils (Dr2.33). Throughout the unit there are local areas where a veneer of billy gravel is prominent. Associated lower-level plains or small stream flood-plains have deeper clay soils, chiefly (Ug5.28, Ug5.29, and Ug5.24) and (Ug5.34)." (Digital Atlas of Australia 1991)

In relation to the vegetation characteristics, the Project Area is dominated by grassland (90% - see Section 3.1) and is impacted by current grazing activities. The site, despite being regarded as largely remnant grassland, has been degraded by agricultural activities.

3.4 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values relevant to the project area.

There are no outstanding natural features or any other important or unique values relevant to the Project Area that were identified during the development approval stage or through recent field surveys. The Project Area is used for grazing; with the wider site area is also used for rural and farming related purposes.

3.5 Describe the status of native vegetation relevant to the project area.

As outlined in Section 3.1 and Section 3.3, following an ecology survey (DC Solutions 2016) the native vegetation at the site has been characterised as comprising 90% Regional ecosystem 9.4.1; *Astrelba lappacea* ± *Aristida latifolia* ± *Panicum decompositum* grassland on Cretaceous sediments (Least Concern). Comprising 10% of the site is RE 4.9.7 *Astrelba* spp. grassland wooded with *Acacia tephрина* ± *A. cambagei* and *Atalaya hemiglauca* on Cretaceous sediments (Least Concern).



The wooded area in RE 4.9.7 is regrowth associated with the runoff from a small dam, as determined through aerial photographs provided by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) and included in the attached Biodiversity Report (2016).

Based on photographs of the site, known land uses (agricultural), and low species diversity recorded, the site can be classified as relatively degraded, with low ecological value.

3.6 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The Project Area is generally flat, with a desktop review indicating an elevation of between 202-205m across the site. On-site observations during the field survey confirmed that the site is relatively flat, with some gentle undulations that increase moving east towards the natural drainage line outside the Project Area.

3.7 Describe the current condition of the environment relevant to the project area.

The broader landscape surrounding the Project Area is highly fragmented, due to agricultural land use. In addition to the occurrence of non-native plant species, the broader project Area exhibits evidence of minor erosion, and low ecological value. Additional disturbances include vehicle tracks throughout the area, rubbish littered by passing motorists, and few remaining stands of remnant trees and shrubs.

3.8 Describe any Commonwealth Heritage Places or other places recognised as having heritage values relevant to the project area.

There are no Commonwealth Heritage Places relevant to the Project Area. In addition, the site is not affected by a Heritage Control under the Longreach Regional Council Planning Scheme. A search of the Queensland Heritage Register ('QHR') confirmed that the subject site is not affected by the provision of the Queensland Heritage Act 1992.

3.9 Describe any Indigenous heritage values relevant to the project area.

In accordance with the Duty of Care guidelines, development within the subject site would fall into Category 4 ('Areas previously subject to Significant Ground Disturbance'). Category 4 provides for activities carried out in an area previously subject to Significant Ground Disturbance. When an activity is carried out under these circumstances, the Act holds that unlikely activities will harm Aboriginal cultural heritage and it is reasonable and practicable that activity proceeds without further cultural heritage assessment. The potential for items of historic heritage within the study area is considered low; and it is considered unlikely that new finds will be discovered during construction.



Canadian Solar has engaged a local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Specialist to provide a risk assessment and management guidance for construction of the project. The risk assessment is proposed to include a site visit with representatives of the relevant Aboriginal People (Bidjara People) to seek their written agreement with its findings.

3.10 Describe the tenure of the action area (e.g. freehold, leasehold) relevant to the project area.

Freehold – Approved Lease Area over Project Area

3.11 Describe any existing or any proposed uses relevant to the project area.

Currently, the Project Area is used for cattle grazing. The wider site area is also used for rural and farming related purposes. A man-made dam (approximately 80 metres x 80 metres in size) is located to the east of the Project Area and to the east of this is a natural drainage line. A Development Permit for Material Change of Use – Renewable Energy Facility and subsequent Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot by Lease Agreement has been obtained by Canadian Solar to facilitate the development of a 30ha solar farm in the south-western portion of the lot.



Section 4 - Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

Provide a description of measures that will be implemented to avoid, reduce, manage or offset any relevant impacts of the action. Include, if appropriate, any relevant reports or technical advice relating to the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed measures.

Examples of relevant measures to avoid or reduce impacts may include the timing of works, avoidance of important habitat, specific design measures, or adoption of specific work practices.

4.1 Describe the measures you will undertake to avoid or reduce impact from your proposed action.

Details of the construction method are yet to be confirmed, however, it is anticipated that clearing of vegetation within the main PV site and easement will be restricted to less than 30ha plus a 7,400m² (0.74ha) easement of predominantly grassland vegetation. This will largely avoid the requirement for the removal of mature trees at the site. The Project includes a lease area of 50ha, with the PV panels accommodating approximately 30ha of this area. The additional lease area provides flexibility for micro-siting to avoiding any environmental sensitivities that may be present in certain area within the site.

Construction activities on site will be short-lived, and of low impact; minimising potential impacts to vegetation on the site. However, mitigation measures should include:

- Vehicle travel within the road reserve should be limited to that required for construction and maintenance activities, with vehicle speed limited to 20 km/hour to reduce the risk of fauna vehicle strike and dust creation.

4.2 For matters protected by the EPBC Act that may be affected by the proposed action, describe the proposed environmental outcomes to be achieved.

It is unlikely that any EPBC matters will be affected by the proposed project.



Section 5 – Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

A checkbox tick identifies each of the matters of National Environmental Significance you identified in section 2 of this application as likely to be a significant impact.

Review the matters you have identified below. If a matter ticked below has been incorrectly identified you will need to return to Section 2 to edit.

5.1.1 World Heritage Properties

No

5.1.2 National Heritage Places

No

5.1.3 Wetlands of International Importance (declared Ramsar Wetlands)

No

5.1.4 Listed threatened species or any threatened ecological community

No

5.1.5 Listed migratory species

No

5.1.6 Commonwealth marine environment

No

5.1.7 Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land

No

5.1.8 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

No

5.1.9 A water resource, in relation to coal/gas/mining

No



5.1.10 Protection of the environment from nuclear actions

No

5.1.11 Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions

No

5.1.12 Commonwealth Heritage places overseas

No

5.2 If no significant matters are identified, provide the key reasons why you think the proposed action is not likely to have a significant impact on a matter protected under the EPBC Act and therefore not a controlled action.

Potential impacts to threatened species and migratory species that have the potential to occur at the Project Area are unlikely to occur; particularly given the degraded nature of the site and that habitat on site is not likely to provide habitat for listed EPBC matters.



Section 6 – Environmental record of the person proposing to take the action

Provide details of any proceedings under Commonwealth, State or Territory law against the person proposing to take the action that pertain to the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

6.1 Does the person taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management? Please explain in further detail.

Canadian Solar has a satisfactory environmental management record with no action taken against the organisation during past projects.

6.2 Provide details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Nil

6.3 Will the action be taken in accordance with the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework?

Yes

6.3.1 If the person taking the action is a corporation, please provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework.

The Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) contractor is certified under AS/NZS ISO14001 Environmental management systems.

6.4 Has the person taking the action previously referred an action under the EPBC Act, or been responsible for undertaking an action referred under the EPBC Act?

Yes

6.4.1 EPBC Act No and/or Name of Proposal.

Submission #1993 Oakey Solar Farm (EPBC 2017/7879)



Section 7 – Information sources

You are required to provide the references used in preparing the referral including the reliability of the source.

7.1 List references used in preparing the referral (please provide the reference source reliability and any uncertainties of source).

Reference Source	Reliability	Uncertainties
DC Solutions (2016) Biodiversity Report	High - Report Provided	Additional survey effort undertaken following initial site visit.
DoEE (2017) Protected Matters Search Tool	High - Resource provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Regulator (DoEE)	nil
DoE (2015) Conservation Advice - <i>Grantiella picta</i> - painted honeyeater	High - Resource provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Regulator (DoEE)	nil
DoE (2016) Conservation Advice - <i>Macrotis lagotis</i> - greater bilby	High - Resource provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Regulator (DoEE)	nil
DoE (2008) Approved Conservation Advice for <i>Sclerolaena walkeri</i>	High - Resource provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Regulator (DoEE)	nil
DoE (2011) Approved Conservation Advice for <i>Acanthopis hawkei</i> - plains death adder	High - Resource provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Regulator (DoEE)	nil
QLD Wildlife Online Search	High - Resource provided by the State Government	nil
Australian Soil Resource Information System - Digital Atlas of Australian Soils (1991)	High - Resource provided by CSIRO	nil



Section 8 – Proposed alternatives

You are required to complete this section if you have any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) that were considered but not proposed.

8.0 Provide a description of the feasible alternative?

Nil

8.1 Select the relevant alternatives related to your proposed action.

8.27 Do you have another alternative?

No



Section 9 – Contacts, signatures and declarations

Where applicable, you must provide the contact details of each of the following entities: Person Proposing the Action; Proposed Designated Proponent and; Person Preparing the Referral. You will also be required to provide signed declarations from each of the identified entities.

9.0 Is the person proposing to take the action an Organisation or an Individual?

Organisation

9.2 Organisation

9.2.1 Job Title

General Manager

9.2.2 First Name

Daniel

9.2.3 Last Name

Ruoss

9.2.4 E-mail

Daniel.Ruoss@canadiansolar.com

9.2.5 Postal Address

Level 1, 165 Cremorne Street
Richmond VIC 3121
Australia

9.2.6 ABN/ACN

ABN

61149125020 - Canadian Solar (Australia) Pty Limited

9.2.7 Organisation Telephone

+61 (03) 8609 1844



9.2.8 Organisation E-mail


support@canadiansolar.com

9.2.9 I qualify for exemption from fees under section 520(4C)(e)(v) of the EPBC Act because I am:

Not applicable

Small Business Declaration

I have read the Department of the Environment and Energy's guidance in the online form concerning the definition of a small a business entity and confirm that I qualify for a small business exemption.

Signature:..... Date: 14 February 2017

9.2.9.2 I would like to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under Schedule 1, 5.21A of the EPBC Regulations

No


9.2.9.3 Under sub regulation 5.21A(5), you must include information about the applicant (if not you) the grounds on which the waiver is sought and the reasons why it should be made

Declaration

I, Daniel Ruoss, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf of or for the benefit of any other person or entity.

Signature:..... Date: 14 February 2017

I, Daniel Ruoss, the person proposing the action, consent to the designation of myself as the proponent of the purposes of the action describe in this EPBC Act Referral.

Signature:..... Date: 14 February 2017

9.3 Is the Proposed Designated Proponent an Organisation or Individual?



Organisation

9.5 Organisation

9.5.1 Job Title

General Manager

9.5.2 First Name

Daniel

9.5.3 Last Name

Ruoss

9.5.4 E-mail

Daniel.Ruoss@canadiansolar.com

9.5.5 Postal Address

Level 1, 165 Cremorne Street
Richmond VIC 3121
Australia

9.5.6 ABN/ACN

ABN

61149125020 - Canadian Solar (Australia) Pty Limited

9.5.7 Organisation Telephone

+61 (03) 8609 1844

9.5.8 Organisation E-mail

support@canadiansolar.com

Declaration

I, Daniel Ruoss, the proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral.



Signature:..... Date: 14 February 2017

S. Huss

9.6 Is the Referring Party an Organisation or Individual?

Organisation

9.8 Organisation

9.8.1 Job Title

Partner

9.8.2 First Name

David

9.8.3 Last Name

Dique

9.8.4 E-mail

David.Dique@erm.com

9.8.5 Postal Address

PO Box 1400
SPRING HILL QLD 4004
Australia

9.8.6 ABN/ACN

ABN

12002773248 - ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA PTY LIMITED

9.8.7 Organisation Telephone

+61 7 3839 8393

9.8.8 Organisation E-mail

David.Dique@erm.com

Declaration



I, DAVID DIQUE, I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 17/02/17



Appendix A - Attachments

The following attachments have been supplied with this EPBC Act Referral:

1. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_biodiversity_report_addendum.pdf
2. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_biodiversity_report_dc_solutions.pdf
3. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_development_permit_mcureduced.pdf
4. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_development_permit_rol.pdf
5. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_mcu_approved_plan.pdf
6. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_pmst.pdf
7. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_re_mapping.pdf
8. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_rol_approved_plans.pdf
9. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_vma_report.pdf
10. 0389585_longreach_solar_farm_-_wildlife_online.pdf