



Wednesday, 22 June 2016

Gullen Solar Farm approved by JRPP

The independent Southern Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) has approved an application for Gullen Solar farm, located around 17 kilometres south of Crookwell.

The solar farm will be next to the existing Gullen Range wind farm.

The decision came following the Panel's deferral of the decision until more information was supplied, including:

- the exact size, location and layout of the solar panels, buildings and infrastructure needed to support the project
- details of the vegetation and biodiversity loss
- a revised visual analysis
- a revised noise report
- more clarity on which lots the application related to
- details of legal arrangements for access across sites that are not part of the development site.

This information was received by the Panel last month and a revised council report was produced.

The acting panel Chair, Allen Grimwood said the decision was made after hearing community and stakeholder submissions.

"The development will contribute to sustainable energy production, and to the local economy through employment generated through construction and operation. Subject to the conditions we've imposed, the panel is satisfied that the impacts of the development will be effectively managed and mitigated."

The JRPP has approved the application, subject to conditions, including limits on hours of construction, vehicle movements and planting a tree screen to soften the visual impact on neighbouring properties. The panel also changed the conditions regarding landscaping around the site, and added a condition requiring the operator to keep a complaints register.

More information on the regional panels can be found at www.jrpp.nsw.gov.au

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