

Monday 31 December 2018

MILLIONS OF SOLAR PANELS TO HARNESS THE SUN

Ministerial Consent from the NSW Minister for Planning and Environment was announced today for the largest solar PV project in NSW at Yarrabee Park, Morundah, just 25 kilometres south of Narrandera.

David Webster, Director of Reach Solar, said, "Reach Solar has worked closely with the Narrandera Shire Council, the Department of Planning & Energy, the local community and land owners to achieve this significant outcome, allowing for the development of the largest solar PV project in NSW."

"When fully developed, the project will generate up to 2,300GWh of renewable electricity, enough to power approx. 200,000* houses and require the installation of more than 3,600,000 solar panels. The project has also been future proofed with the ability to better integrate with the existing transmission grid."

Narrandera Shire Council Mayor Cr Neville Kschenka said today "The approval for the Yarrabee Park Solar Farm is another positive outcome for Narrandera Shire following the approval earlier in 2018 for another solar farm development at Sandigo."

Adding that Council has negotiated a consent condition that requires the proponent to develop and agree with Council on an employment and accommodation strategy that has to be signed off by the NSW Department of Planning before any construction can commence.

Council has moved to establish a Reference Group comprising of community leaders to develop and address strategies, which will ensure maximum engagement for the local business community with the developers of all planned solar farm proposals in the Shire. The group will meet in Narrandera on Tuesday, 15 January 2019.

Council has communicated via its business community database seeking response to a questionnaire to determine the names of businesses that are prepared to list their goods and services in a database that will be accessible by the solar farm developers.

"This initiative will achieve mutual benefit for the developers and local business people. The developers will be able to identify and access local businesses to provide goods and services needed for their development, particularly in priority areas such as accommodation for the workforce, access to appropriately qualified workers, transportation, trades, food, water, waste and a whole lot more," Mayor Kschenka continued.

A potential range of goods and services has already been identified by Regional Manager of the NSW Industry Capability Network, Klaus Baumgartel, who is an expert in local and regional procurement needs, while Reach Solar has also expressed their wider needs and requirements for the upcoming project.

For more information on the Yarrabee Park Solar Farm project please contact Council on 02 6959 5510.

END

Precis or Summary: Millions Of Solar Panels To Harness The Sun			
Attachments	Nil	Embargoed:	N/A
Authorised By:	Media Contact: Communications Officer, Edwina Foley	Number of Pages	1

MEDIA RELEASE

George Cowan - General Manager	T (02) 6959 5502		
Distribution To: Council Website, Facebook, Media – Regional		Number: 17/18-	53