

**NGH**

Glanmire Solar Farm – Social Impact Assessment Discussion

17<sup>th</sup> May 2022



Commercial In Confidence

## *What are social impacts? What is Social Impact Assessment?*

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- ‘Social impacts’ generally refer to the consequences that people experience when a new project brings change’ (DPIE, 2021).
- Social Impact Assessment aims to identify, predict and evaluate likely social impacts arising from a project and propose responses to the predicted impacts.
- This is one of the technical assessments completed as part of the EIS.



# The SIA Process

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## Background

- Desktop review of project information, information relating to the social context and comparative studies

## Impact Scoping

- Identification and preliminary assessment of the likely social impacts of the project
- Identification of the social 'area of influence'

## Community and Stakeholder Engagement

- Targeted interviews with key stakeholders

## Baseline

- Collation of key statistics and information relating to the social area of influence

## Impact Assessment

- Review of other EIS technical studies, stakeholder and community engagement findings
- Evaluation of the significance of identified potential social impacts

## Social Impact Enhancement and Mitigation

- Determine management measures and opportunity strategies to minimise significant negative impacts and enhance significant positive impacts



# Potential social impacts from the project (a)

Potential social impact themes	Project phase (PA/C/O/D)	Positive and negative impacts	Potentially impacted group
Community cohesion	PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Varied levels of support within the local community regarding the proposal (creating some localised disconnection)</li> <li>Community benefit sharing and collaboration opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local community</li> <li>Broader community</li> </ul>
Health and wellbeing	PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential anxiety around what the outcome of the planning process will be (and the associated potential changes)</li> <li>The health benefits associated with a transition to clean energy (emissions reduction in a broader sense)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbours and nearby residents</li> </ul>
Decision-making systems	PA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ability for the community to have meaningful dialogue with balanced representation</li> <li>The ability to contribute to project decisions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbours and nearby residents</li> </ul>
Economic	C, O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction and operational jobs and local capability development</li> <li>Indirect economic impacts (retail, commercial, etc)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local community, broader region</li> </ul>
Housing and accommodation	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pressure on short-term accommodation and rental housing</li> <li>Flow on economic benefits supporting a construction workforce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local community (lower income groups)</li> </ul>
Community	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase demand for social/health services</li> <li>Change in community feel for the area</li> <li>Community benefit sharing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local community (Bathurst)</li> <li>Local community (Bathurst)</li> <li>Neighbours and broader community</li> <li>Broader community</li> </ul>

# Potential social impacts from the project (b)

Potential social impact themes	Project phase (P/A/C/O/I/D)	Positive and negative impacts	Potentially impacted group
Access	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation and storage of renewable energy in the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broader community</li> </ul>
Way of life	C, O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts on people's daily routines</li> <li>Impacts of a transition to clean energy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbours and nearby residents</li> </ul>
Roads and Traffic	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts on local roads during construction and associated improvements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local road users</li> </ul>
Visual impacts and landscape character	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change to landscape character</li> <li>Consideration of glint and glare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbours, nearby residents, motorists</li> <li>Broader community</li> </ul>
Amenity	C, O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration of changes in terms of noise, air quality, and lighting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbours and nearby residents</li> </ul>
Livelihoods	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns about perceived impacts to property values</li> <li>Economic diversification opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbours and nearby residents</li> <li>Broader community</li> </ul>
Safety	O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns about fire risks and coordination with local RFS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbours and nearby residents, local community</li> </ul>

# Discussion

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## Social Impact Themes

Amenity

Economic

Visual and  
landscape

Health and  
wellbeing

Safety

Roads and  
traffic

Community  
cohesion

Decision-  
making

Community

Housing and  
Accomm

Way of life

Livelihoods

## Key Questions...

Further details /  
lessons from  
other local  
projects?

What is the  
likelihood of  
this impact  
occurring?

Will this  
impact result  
in a big  
change for  
people?

Is concern  
about this  
impact widely  
felt? Who by?

How sensitive  
/vulnerable are  
affected people  
to this impact?

How  
concerned  
are you /  
people about  
this?

