

APRIL 2020

Project Newsletter Edition #2



## Welcome to the *Dumaresq Solar Farm* Newsletter – Edition 2

This newsletter is the second in a series that aims to provide information and updates to local communities for a solar farm development proposal, which will be located approximately 75km north of Inverell, NSW and as such will be located in the Inverell Local Government Area ("LGA").

Halo Renewable Energy's strategy is to deliver a comprehensive and transparent engagement process with landowners, government and community stakeholders throughout the life cycle of this project. We are committed to informing and consulting regularly with the community and also to support creative community initiatives that will hopefully make a difference (*large or small*).

This **second newsletter** updates on progress and also outlines how the community can find out more information about the proposal and provide feedback across the development process.

## Scoping Study & SEARs

We have now drafted our detailed Scoping Report (*Report*) that is required to be submitted to the NSW Government in order to obtain the Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (*referred to as SEARs*) on areas where detailed studies need to be conducted in order to understand potential impacts to both environment and community.

Our detailed report was submitted during February 2020 and SEARs was issued on March 10<sup>th</sup> 2020. A copy of both the Report and the SEARs can be reviewed on the project website: [www.dumaresqsolarfarm.com](http://www.dumaresqsolarfarm.com) and also on the NSW Government Major Projects website: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects>

We are now planning the commencement of the various in depth investigation activities required to bring together the final Environmental Impact Statement (*EIS*).

Given the current disruptions caused by the COVID-19 virus, however, the original timetable of having this activity finished by August 2020 will be delayed.

## Community Opportunities To Work On DSF

A key part of our approach to Community Engagement is the opportunity for employment on the DSF project as that project develops. Despite the recent drought relieving rains that the New England area has had we are still sensitive to issues of hardship and as such are focused on delivering employment opportunities.

In order for any member of the community to be available to work, however, various work permits are required in line with guidelines provided by Safework NSW. For any construction work the most basic permit is known as a "white card" - <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/licences-and-registrations/white-cards>. The Safework NSW website states:

*People who need a white card include:*

- *Site managers, supervisors, labourers and tradespeople*
- *People who access operational construction zones (unaccompanied or not directly supervised by an inducted person)*
- *Workers whose employment causes them to routinely enter operational construction zones*

As such any member of the community that does not have a white card will need to undertake the necessary training in order to obtain that permit.

We are encouraging the engagement of local (*for large or small roles*), and members of the New England community can obtain a form for lodging their details by emailing [community@dumaresqsolarfarm.com](mailto:community@dumaresqsolarfarm.com)

## Keeping Up To Date

The project website is regularly updated with both news developments and opportunities for business services. You can also follow updates through social media with both **Instagram** & **Twitter**: [www.twitter.com/dumaresqsolar](https://www.twitter.com/dumaresqsolar) or when on Instagram [@dumaresqsolar](https://www.instagram.com/dumaresqsolar). We posted some photos last week and it is great to see green grass back on the ground (finally!).

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus we have reviewed our timetable for advancing the project to maintain progress, but assuming significant disruption in availability of professional & technical services. This will be subject to change, and Halo remains ambitious to advance as practicable



## Enquiries & communication welcomed

All questions – complex or straightforward – can be directed to :



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A 'Drop Us A Line' form is also available on the website:  
[dumaresqsolarfarm.com](https://dumaresqsolarfarm.com)



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