

Corop Solar Farm

Application Number: **03161**

Commencement Date:
26/09/2025

Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Corop Solar Farm

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Energy Generation and Supply (renewable)

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Solar Farm

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/01/2026

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

01/01/2066

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

The proposed action is the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility known as the Corop Solar Farm, located within the Campaspe Shire in Victoria. The project includes the construction and operation of a 440MW (DC) photovoltaic (PV) solar farm and an associated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a storage capacity of up to 800MWh (Att 3 -Corop Planning Report, Executive Summary, vii).

Key components of the project include (Refer to- Att 3-Corop Planning Report, Executive Summary, vii (proposal summary table)):

- Installation of approximately 1.19 million solar panels, mounted with a maximum tilt height of 4.35 metres and spaced in rows approximately 6 metres apart
- Development of a substation and switching station to facilitate connection to the existing 220kV transmission line via Old Corop Road
- Installation of up to 208 BESS containers with inverters and transformers, housed in modular or containerised units, located within a designated battery storage area
- Construction of internal access tracks, site fencing, and associated operations and maintenance buildings
- The project may be delivered in two stages across an area of approximately 1,100 hectares, spanning 12 land titles zoned Farming Zone (FZ)
- Access will be provided via multiple entry points on Old Corop Road, Bedwell Road, and Geodetic North Road, including access for emergency services

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

Yes

1.2.3 Is the proposed action the first stage of a staged development (or a larger project)?

Yes

1.2.5 Provide information about the staged development (or relevant larger project).

The Corop Solar Farm will be developed in two stages across about 1,099 hectares of flat agricultural land located approximately 5 kilometres west of Rushworth and 6 kilometres south of Stanhope. The facility will have a total generating capacity of about 440 megawatts (DC) and include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of up to 800 megawatt hours.

Stage 1 covers the southern portion of the site at 344 Old Corop Road, Rushworth, comprising around 579 hectares. It includes the operations and maintenance building, internal substation, switching station, initial solar arrays and site access from Old Corop Road and Geodetic North Road.

Stage 2 covers the northern portion of the site, north of Bedwell Road and extending to Carag Road, comprising the balance of the land area. This stage will complete the remaining solar arrays, internal tracks and cabling connections. Bedwell Road provides the break between the two stages (Att 3- Corop Planning Report, Section 2.1, pages 2-5).

Construction may occur sequentially or overlap depending on grid connection and financing, with each stage able to operate independently once commissioned.

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

Statutory Planning -

The below describes the legislative permissibility at the time of planning approval

DEVELOPMENT SITE

Infrastructure associated with the solar farm will be located on lands as described below:

Development Component Lot/Deposited Plan (Att 1 F&F Assessment, Section 1, Page 1) :

Stage 1 (south) includes lots: 35\PP3162, 70\PP3162, 70A\PP3162, 70C\PP3162, 70E\PP3162, 70D\PP3162, and 70B\PP3162.

Stage 2 (north) includes lots: 6B\PP3162, 32\PP3162, 70F\PP3162, 70G\PP3162, 70H\PP3162, and 70K\PP3162.

Planning Frameworks (Att 1- F&F Assessment, Section 2.0, Page 3-7):

Planning and Environment Act 1987: The project is subject to the local Planning Scheme, which regulates land use and development. It sets out zoning and overlay controls that apply to the site. A planning permit will be required for the use and development of the land for a renewable energy facility.

Victorian Planning Provisions (Clause 52.17 – Native Vegetation): A permit is required for the removal of native vegetation. The project is being designed to avoid native vegetation loss. The layout avoids mapped wetlands, which are treated as native vegetation unless demonstrated otherwise.

Environment Effects Act 1978: The project has been assessed against the Environment Effects Statement referral criteria. Based on current information, an EES is not required, as the potential for regionally or state-significant impacts is considered low.

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG Act): No removal of listed FFG species is proposed. The site is primarily cleared agricultural land and no permit is currently required under the FFG Act.

Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act): The site contains regionally controlled weed species such as Boxthorn and Bathurst Burr. The proponent is responsible for weed control under this Act. Hygiene and weed management measures will be implemented during construction and operation.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act): This referral has been submitted to determine whether the proposal is a controlled action under the EPBC Act. Based on ecological assessments, no significant impacts to Matters of National Environmental Significance are anticipated.

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed consultation documentations, if relevant. *

Public consultation for the proposed project has been ongoing since 2019 and has included multiple community engagement activities aimed at informing and involving local stakeholders. The first community information session was held on 22 May 2019 at the Rushworth Community House, and was advertised through the Rushworth Community Facebook Page, the Waranga News, and by flyer distribution and neighbour letters. Additional updates and consultation sessions were held in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, providing ongoing opportunities for community input and feedback as the project progressed (Att 4- Community consultation, Section 5, Page 6-7).

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

By completing and submitting this form, you consent to the collection of all personal information contained in this form. If you are providing the personal information of other individuals in this form, please ensure you have their consent before doing so.

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) collects your personal information (as defined by the Privacy Act 1988) through this platform for the purposes of enabling the department to consider your submission and contact you in relation to your submission. If you fail to provide some or all of the personal information requested on this platform (name and email address), the department will be unable to contact you to seek further information (if required) and subsequently may impact the consideration given to your submission.

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1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN 18654533712
Organisation name Green Edge Environmental P/L
Organisation address 60 Murray Street, Tanunda, 5352, SA

Referring party details

Name Janvi Sharma
Job title Environmental Consultant
Phone 0468449092
Email janvi@geenvironmental.com.au
Address 60 Murray Street, Tanunda, SA, 5352

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

No

1.3.2.2 Is Person proposing to take the action an organisation or business? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

ABN/ACN 631987990
Organisation name Corop Solar Farm Pty Ltd
Organisation address 60 Bertie Street Port Melbourne VIC 3207

Person proposing to take the action details

Name Jesse Nicholls
Job title Project Development Manager
Phone 0477799075
Email jnicholls@bnrg.ie
Address 4/39 Susan St Eltham VIC

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

No

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action's history of responsible environmental management including 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 against the Person proposing to take the action. *

BNRG Lesson have no past or ongoing legislative proceedings, nor have do they have any previous referred actions.

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

No policy or framework in place

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details

ABN/ACN 631987990
Organisation name Corop Solar Farm Pty Ltd
Organisation address 60 Bertie Street Port Melbourne VIC 3207

Proposed designated proponent details

Name Jesse Nicholls
Job title Project Development Manager
Phone 0477799075
Email jnicholls@bnrg.ie
Address 4/39 Susan St Eltham VIC

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

✔ Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	18654533712
Organisation name	Green Edge Environmental P/L
Organisation address	60 Murray Street, Tanunda, 5352, SA
Representative's name	Janvi Sharma
Representative's job title	Environmental Consultant
Phone	0468449092
Email	janvi@geenvironmental.com.au
Address	60 Murray Street, Tanunda, SA, 5352

✔ Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

ABN/ACN	631987990
Organisation name	Corop Solar Farm Pty Ltd
Organisation address	60 Bertie Street Port Melbourne VIC 3207
Representative's name	Jesse Nicholls
Representative's job title	Project Development Manager
Phone	0477799075
Email	jnicholls@bnrg.ie
Address	4/39 Susan St Eltham VIC

✔ Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

No

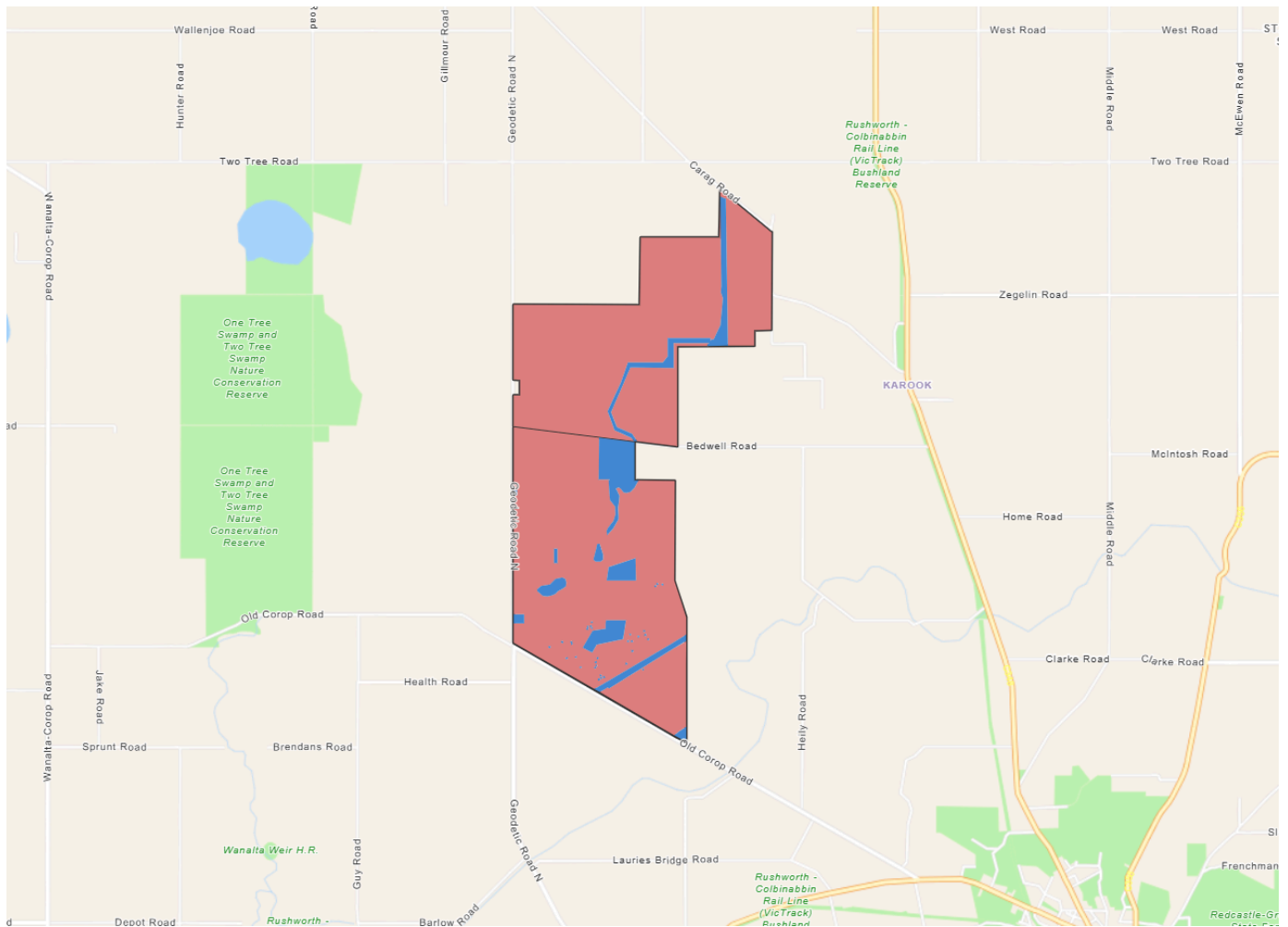
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Referring party

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



Project Area: 1143.14 Ha Disturbance Footprint: 1046.84 Ha Avoidance Area: 96.33 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

344 Old Corop Road, Corop, Victoria, 3559

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Victoria

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

Freehold land- Farming Zone (FZ1) (Att 3- Corop Planning Report, Section 5.1, table 5-1, Page 18).

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.

LANDSCAPE FEATURES

IBRA region: Riverina

IBRA sub-region: Victorian Riverina (RIV04)

This subregion is characterised by flat to gently undulating alluvial plains, with fertile soils historically supporting a mosaic of grasslands, open woodlands, and ephemeral wetlands. However, the landscape has been extensively cleared and modified for agriculture (Att 1- F&F Assessment, Section 3.2.1, Page 12).

The site itself lies within a highly modified rural landscape dominated by broadacre cropping and grazing. The majority of the project area has been cleared of native vegetation and is currently used for agricultural purposes (Att 1- F&F Assessment, Section 3.2.1, Page 13). The proposed development site contains three area of mapped wetlands (Att 1- F&F Assessment, Appendix A), it also contains some native scattered vegetation which will be designed around and will not require removal ((Att 1- F&F Assessment, Section 3.3, Page15) . The site contains a vegetation corridor south of the site adjacent to Old Corop Road, which will not be impacted.

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

The study area is used for annual cropping and grazing (Att 3- Corop, Section 2.6, Page 8). The area is zoned Farming Zone (FZ1) (Att 3- Corop Planning Report, Section 5.1 Table 5-1, Page 18).

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

The project area contains three temporary freshwater wetlands that are episodic or intermittent in nature, holding water only after significant rainfall. These wetlands are important natural features within an otherwise cleared agricultural landscape. They provide seasonal habitat for native fauna such as frogs, birds etc and contribute to local biodiversity (Att 3- Corop Planning Report, Section 2.4, Page 6-7). However, these wetlands will be avoided and designed around to avoid any impacts. The PMST database returned six wetlands that more than 40-500km upstream from the proposed site (Att 2- Self Assessment Report- Appendix B).

3.1.4 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 flat with elevation profiles ranging from 105m to 110m.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

The proposed solar and BESS farm footprint is located within a heavily modified agricultural landscape that has been subject to extensive clearing, cropping, and grazing over many decades. The site assessment revealed no functional Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) located within the footprint of the proposed development (Att 1-F&F assessment, section 3.2.2, page 13) . The area has been highly disturbed through continual cropping, grazing, and the historical development of water management infrastructure, resulting in a landscape with limited native ecological values.

Native flora within the project area is mostly restricted to a small number of remnant patches and scattered native trees, which are located outside the main development footprint. These areas have been fenced to prevent disturbance and will be retained. While Grey Box, Buloke, Yellow Box and River Red gum trees are present, their occurrence is limited and does not meet the minimum condition thresholds required to be classified as a Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) under the EPBC Act (Att 1- F&F Assessment, section 3.2.2 page 13-15). The broader site does not support a defined or intact native ecological community and is unlikely to meet the condition thresholds for any listed EPBC Act for any TEC.

Due to ongoing agricultural disturbance, irrigation removal, and the absence of key habitat features such as native understorey, fallen logs, or hollow-bearing trees, the area provides limited suitable habitat for threatened flora or fauna. The fauna likely to be present includes common and adaptable species, such as kangaroos, common reptiles, and generalist bird species. While a small number of scattered trees may offer limited foraging or perching habitat for birds, these features are isolated and surrounded by cleared land (Att 1- F&F assessment, section 3.2.2, page 14)

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

A site assessment confirmed that there are no functional Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) within the development footprint (Att 1-F&F assessment, section 3.2.2, page 13). The area is not representative of any intact or high-quality native vegetation community, and the vegetation present does not meet the criteria for listing as an EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community. Soil across the project area has been disturbed and compacted over time due to cultivation, grazing pressure, and previous irrigation practices, and is likely to show signs of reduced structure and organic content (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 1, Page 1).

Some remnant scattered patches of native vegetation and scattered Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*), Buloke (*Allocasuarina luehmannii*), Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) and River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) trees are present however, they do not form an ecological community as they do not meet the condition thresholds for any listed EPBC Act for any TEC (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Appendix A, Map 3).

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

The PMST database search did not return any world or national heritage places (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Appendix B). The Australian Heritage Database (DCCEEW) also did not identify any heritage sites on the proposed development site (Att 6- Australia Heritage Database Search).

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

A Cultural Heritage Management Plan was agreed with the Registered Aboriginal Party and is in place. (Att 7- CHMP)

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

A detailed Hydrologic Report (Att 5- Hydrology Assessment) has been undertaken by Fifteen 50 which has established the hydrology characteristics of the subject site. Findings of note include the following (Att 3- Corop Planning Report, Section 2.4, Page 6):

- The site is within the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District but is not currently irrigated. The property does not currently have an irrigation outlet or a formal Water Use License (WUL).
- The northern property (Stage 2) is flood prone as there is limited scope for drainage due to the contours (flatness of the land).
- The land is in a dry state by each November/December which demonstrates there are no enduring waterbodies or wetlands.
- The land has a natural drainage function from south to north as part of the local catchment.

The Stage 1 land has two Mapped Wetlands No's 60108 and 60106, however they would not be subject to any works under the planning application and a setback of 20 meters for any construction activities would be provided as shown in the proposed plans (Att 3- Corop Planning Report, Section 2.4, Page 6)

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	No	Yes
S15B	National Heritage	No	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	No	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	No	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	No	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.1.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

There are no World Heritage sites identified within 5km radius of proposed site, as confirmed by the PMST database (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment ,Section 2.1, Page 4). Therefore, the proposed action is unlikely to result in any direct or indirect impacts on World Heritage sites

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.2.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The protected matters search tool did not identify any National Heritage places within 5km of the proposed project area (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1, Page 4).

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.3.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The proposed site is 40km upstream from the nearest Ramsar wetland (NSW Central Murray State Forests) refer to (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1, Page 4).

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

—

Ecological communities

—

4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.4.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The proposed site is heavily disturbed from previous grazing and agricultural use. It does not have any habitat to support the life of threatened species. There are scattered Grey Box, Buloke, Yellow Box and River Red Gum trees present at the site which do not form a TEC and will be fenced, so there will be no direct or indirect impacts (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1, Page 4, Page 8 and Page 9).

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.5.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

Given the absence of suitable habitat as assessed in the EPBC Self Assessment document (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1 and Section 2.2, Page 4 and Page 10-11 respectively), the project is not expected to result in significant impacts the listed migratory species.

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

Not applicable, action does not involve a nuclear action.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

No Commonwealth marine areas within 5km radius of the proposed development identified in the PMST search (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1, Page 5).

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Great Barrier Reef is more than 2000km from the proposed site (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1, Page 5).

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

This section is not applicable. The proposed action is for a solar energy facility and does not involve coal mining or coal seam gas extraction

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

No Commonwealth lands identified within 5km radius of the proposed site (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1, Page 5).

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

No Commonwealth Heritage Places overseas identified within 5km of PMST search (Att 2- EPBC Self Assessment, Section 2.1, Page 5).

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

None

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

No

4.3.8 Describe why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible. *

The Corop Solar Farm is the chosen project location because it represents, among all considered options, the site with the least environmental constraint and highest suitability, and alternatives were not viable for the following reasons:

- 1. Avoidance of MNES:** Self assessment report (Att 2), confirmed that the site does not support threatened flora or fauna species, listed migratory species, or threatened ecological communities. As such, the proposed action is not likely to have a significant impact on any MNES.
- 2. Prior disturbance / modified land**
As described in the previous sections of the application, the site is heavily modified agricultural land (used historically for grazing and cropping), with little to no remnant native vegetation of conservation significance. It is on flat/moderately flat topography, which reduces the risk of disturbing sensitive ecological habitats. Using this land avoids the need for clearing high-quality habitat that might exist elsewhere
- 3. Proximity to infrastructure and grid connection**
The selected site is close to a high-voltage transmission line, making export of power more straightforward, and avoids the need for extensive new transmission infrastructure which itself could introduce greater environmental impact (Att 3- Corop Planning Report, Section 1, Page 1).

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 3- Corop Planning Rpt.pdf This report accompanies a planning permit application for the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility referred to as the Corop Solar Farm.	10/08/2022	No	High

1.2.5 Information about the staged development

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 3- Corop Planning Rpt.pdf This report accompanies a planning permit application for the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility referred to as the Corop Solar Farm.	09/08/2022	No	High

1.2.6 Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents that are relevant to the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- F and F Assessment.pdf The flora/fauna assessment was undertaken to determine the potential impacts of the proposed development on the threatened flora and fauna species along with providing the right mitigation measures for any impacts.	21/07/2022	No	High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 4- Community consultation.pdf This document outlines the stakeholder consultation approach intended to inform, consult, and involve relevant parties throughout the planning, construction, operation, and decommissioning phases of the solar farm, ensuring decisions are made in the best interests of all stakeholders.		No	High

2.2.5 Tenure of the action area relevant to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 3- Corop Planning Rpt.pdf This report accompanies a planning	09/08/2022	No	High

permit application for the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility referred to as the Corop Solar Farm.

3.1.1 Current condition of the project area's environment

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- F and F Assessment.pdf The flora/fauna assessment was undertaken to determine the potential impacts of the proposed development on the threatened flora and fauna species along with providing the right mitigation measures for any impacts.	20/07/2022	No	High

3.1.2 Existing or proposed uses for the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 3- Corop Planning Rpt.pdf This report accompanies a planning permit application for the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility referred to as the Corop Solar Farm.	09/08/2022		High

3.1.3 Natural features, important or unique values that applies to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	22/10/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 3- Corop Planning Rpt.pdf This report accompanies a planning permit application for the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility referred to as the Corop Solar Farm.	09/08/2022	No	High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- F and F Assessment.pdf The flora/fauna assessment was	20/07/2022	No	High

undertaken to determine the potential impacts of the proposed development on the threatened flora and fauna species along with providing the right mitigation measures for any impacts.

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- F and F Assessment.pdf The flora/fauna assessment was undertaken to determine the potential impacts of the proposed development on the threatened flora and fauna species along with providing the right mitigation measures for any impacts.	20/07/2022	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

3.3.1 Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 6- Aus heritage proof.png This image contains proof the search done on the Australian Heritage Database to show no heritage sites are listed at the proposed site.		No	High

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 7- CHMP.pdf This document is a mandatory Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP), under section 46(1)(a) of Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006	18/03/2021	Yes	High

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 3- Corop Planning Rpt.pdf This report accompanies a planning permit application for the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility referred to as the Corop Solar Farm.	09/08/2022		High
#2.	Document	Att 5- Hydrology assessment.pdf This is the hydrology assessment to support the development approval application.	20/07/2022	No	High

4.1.1.3 (World Heritage) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.1.2.3 (National Heritage) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.1.3.3 (Ramsar Wetland) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.1.4.3 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

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Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.1.5.3 (Migratory Species) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.1.7.3 (Commonwealth Marine Area) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.1.8.3 (Great Barrier Reef) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.1.10.3 (Commonwealth Land) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed	21/10/2025	No	High

development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts

4.1.11.3 (Commonwealth heritage places overseas) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High

4.3.8 Why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2- EPBC self assessment.pdf This document provides a self-assessment of the proposed development against the Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, evaluating potential impacts	21/10/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 3- Corop Planning Rpt.pdf This report accompanies a planning permit application for the use and development of a large-scale solar energy facility referred to as the Corop Solar Farm.	09/08/2022		High

5.2 Declarations

✔ Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	18654533712
Organisation name	Green Edge Environmental P/L
Organisation address	60 Murray Street, Tanunda, 5352, SA
Representative's name	Janvi Sharma
Representative's job title	Environmental Consultant
Phone	0468449092
Email	janvi@geenvironmental.com.au
Address	60 Murray Street, Tanunda, SA, 5352

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

By checking this box, I, **Janvi Sharma of Green Edge Environmental P/L**, 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. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.

✔ Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

ABN/ACN	631987990
Organisation name	Corop Solar Farm Pty Ltd
Organisation address	60 Bertie Street Port Melbourne VIC 3207
Representative's name	Jesse Nicholls

Representative's job title	Project Development Manager
Phone	0477799075
Email	jnicholls@bnrg.ie
Address	4/39 Susan St Eltham VIC

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

I, **Jesse Nicholls of Corop Solar Farm Pty Ltd**, 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 or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.

Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

I, **Jesse Nicholls of Corop Solar Farm Pty Ltd**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.