

New South Wales Government Independent Planning Commission

# **RECORD OF SITE INSPECTION**

SITE INSPECTION	MUSWELLBROOK SOLAR FARM (SSD-46543209) Note: this site inspection forms part of the determination process	
Meeting location	Muswellbrook Coal Company (MCC) site office Muscle Creek Road, Muswellbrook	
Date	10 February 2025	
Time	1:00pm – 4:00pm	
ATTENDANCE		
Commission members:	Neal Menzies Suellen Fitzgerald Michael Wright	Panel Chair Panel Member Panel Member
Office of the Independent Planning Commission (IPC):	Kendall Clydsdale Geoff Kwok	Principal Case Manager Senior Planning Officer
Applicant Representatives:	Carla Evans Darcy Denton Mitchell Cronin	Senior Development Manager, OX2 Holdings Senior PV Engineer, OX2 Holdings Manager – Renewable Developments, Idemitsu Australia
Muswellbrook Shire Council Representative:	Theresa Folpp	Environmental Planning Officer
Muswellbrook Coal Company:	Note: MCC provided vehicles and drivers for the inspection	
ATTACHMENTS		
Attachment A Attachment B	Site map with locations visited during the site inspection as listed in Table 1. Photographs taken during the site visit	



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### LOCATIONS & KEY OBSERVATIONS

Table 1: Summary of key observations and discussions from the site visit is provided below.

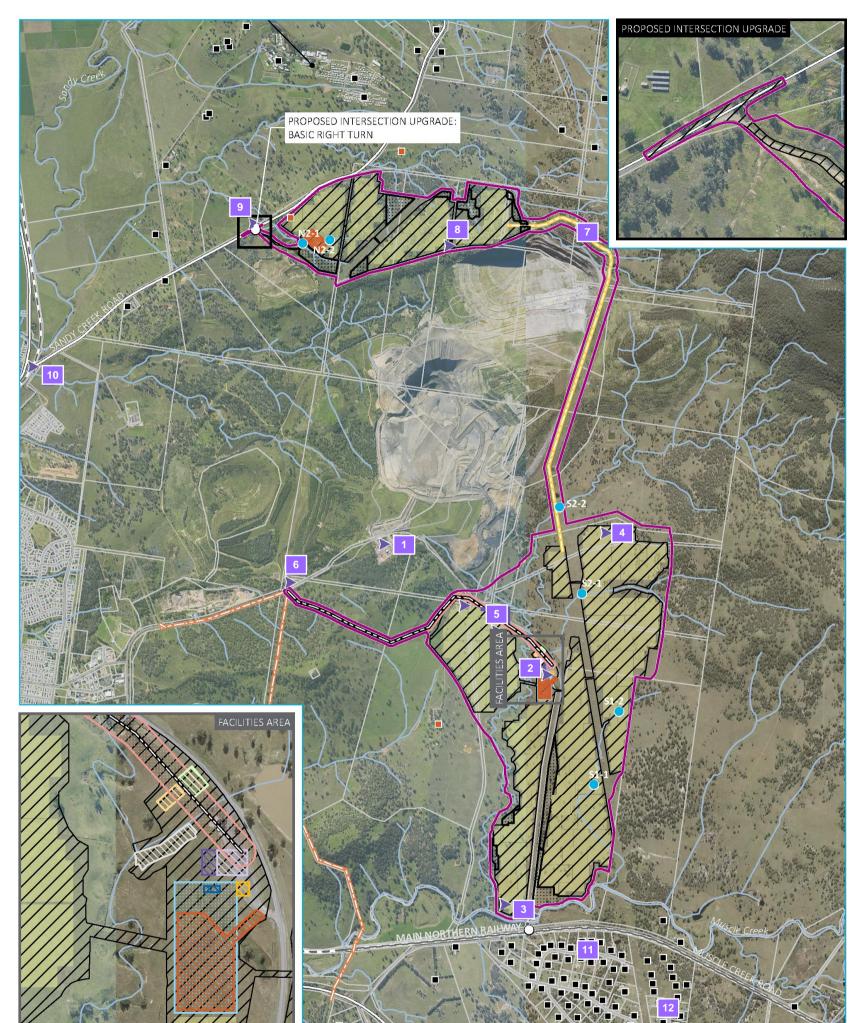
Location / photo Refer to <u>Attachment A</u> for mapped locations and <u>Attachment B</u> for photographs taken from locations	Activity / Description	
1	<ul> <li>Met Applicant and Council representatives at the MCC site office.</li> <li>Opening Statement by Panel Chair.</li> <li>Allocation of attendees to MCC vehicles.</li> </ul>	
2	<ul> <li>Observed location of proposed BESS, substation, switchyard and diversion channel.</li> </ul>	
3	Observed southern site access at Muscle Creek Road.	
4	• Viewed the southern section of the site and location of proposed solar panels from elevated vantage point.	
5	• Viewed the southern section of the site and location of proposed solar panels from south-western vantage point.	
6	Observed the location of the proposed connection to the existing 132 kilovolt (kV) transmission line.	
7	• Viewed the existing transmission line situated to the east of the northern section of the site, which a proposed internal 33 kV connection route also run.	
8	• Viewed the northern section of the site and location of proposed solar panels from a vantage point.	
9	Observed northern site access at Sandy Creek Road.	
10	<ul> <li>Observed the railway crossing at Sandy Creek Road and intersection of New England Highway and Sandy Creek Road.</li> </ul>	
11	Viewed the site from Babbler Crescent at Woodland Ridge Estate.	
12	Viewed the site from Top Knot Place at Woodland Ridge Estate.	

Note: Locations 11 and 12 were visited by Commission members and Office of the IPC only.



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#### ATTACHMENT A - LOCATIONS VISITED (Source: Applicant, with Office of the IPC edits)



Source: EMM (2025); ESCO Pacific (2024); TfNSW (2022); DFSI (2017, 2021); GA (2011); Metromap (2022)

#### KEY

- 🔲 Project area
- 10 Site visit stop
- Site access
- Potential watercourse crossing
- Associated dwellings
- Dwellings not associated with the project
- Development footprint
  - Indicative panel layout
- Biodiversity exclusion area
- Connection route
- 132 kV connection to 95M

- Switchyard
- 르 Existing transmission line (132 kV)
- BESS (Battery Energy Storage System)
  BESS Collection Station
  - BESS concetion st
- Car Park

Site element

- Connection internal north to south buffer
- 132 kV connection to 95M buffer

Internal connection route (33 kV)

- 🔤 Laydown
- 0&M
- SF Collection Station
- Transformer Substation
  Diversion channel
- Existing environment
- - Rail line
- ---- Minor road
- ----- Watercourse/drainage line
- Cadastral boundary

#### Overview of project

GDA2020 MGA Zone 56

Muswellbrook Solar Farm IPC Figure 1.2



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### **RECORD OF SITE INSPECTION**

ATTACHMENT B – SITE INSPECTION PHOTOGRAPHS (Source: Office of the IPC)







Location 2

Location 3





Location 6



Location 7



Location 8



Location 10



Location 11



Location 12

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Location 5



Location 9