

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.

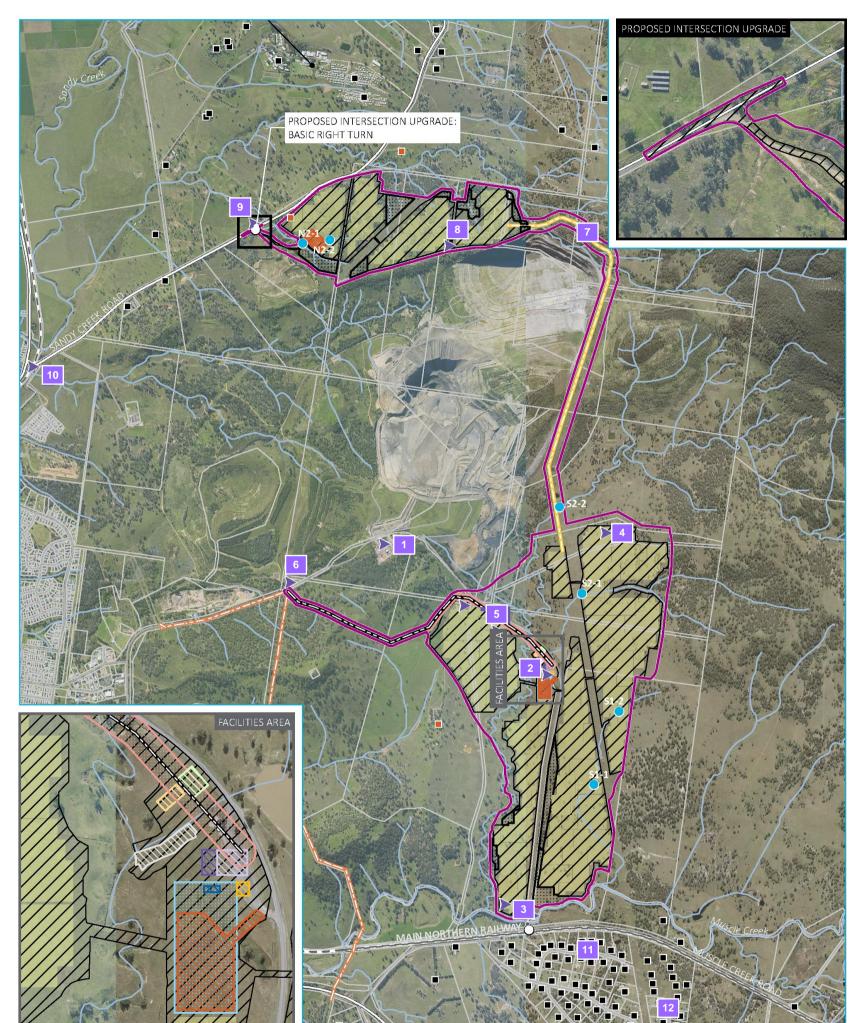
Location / photo Refer to <u>Attachment A</u> for mapped locations and <u>Attachment B</u> for photographs taken from locations	Activity / Description	
1	 Met Applicant and Council representatives at the MCC site office. Opening Statement by Panel Chair. Allocation of attendees to MCC vehicles. 	
2	 Observed location of proposed BESS, substation, switchyard and diversion channel. 	
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	 Observed the railway crossing at Sandy Creek Road and intersection of New England Highway and Sandy Creek Road. 	
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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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