

### **Explanatory Note – Culcairn Solar Farm (SSD 10288)**

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment assessed a development application from Neoen Australia to develop a 350 megawatt (MW) solar farm with a 100MW / 200MW – hour battery storage approximately 4 kilometres south-west of Culcairn.

Approval was granted by the Independent Planning Commission to the development on the 25 March 2021. The development consent contained a condition of consent requiring the applicant to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with Council.

The VPA provides a lump sum payment to Council of \$150 000 and then an annual contribution of \$150, 000 (adjusted annually) until the cessation of operation of the development.

The VPA secures offsite benefits for the community so that the development will deliver a net community benefit. Consequently the VPA will have a positive impact in the locality of the development.