Explanatory Note – Walla Walla Solar Farm (SSD 9874)

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment assessed a development application from FRV Services Australia to develop a 300 megawatt (MW) solar farm approximately 5 kilometres northeast of Walla Walla.

Approval was granted by the Independent Planning Commission to the development on the 27 November 2020. The development consent contained a condition of consent requiring the applicant to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with Council.

The VPA provides an upfront payment to Council of \$700 000 and then an annual contribution of \$50, 000 (adjusted annually) for community projects from the date of financial close of the project for 30 years.

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.