

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT  
AT WELLINGTON**

**I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA  
KI TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA**

IN THE MATTER of a direct referral of applications for resource consents s 87G of the Resource Management Act 1991 to establish and operate a 175-megawatt (peak) solar farm at 415 Moroa Road, Greytown, 312 Bidwills Cutting Road, Greytown; 1942 State Highway 2, Greytown and 18 Pharazyns Road, Featherston

BY

FAR NORTH SOLAR FARM  
LIMITED

(ENV-2023-WLG-000014)

Applicant

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**MINUTE OF THE ENVIRONMENT COURT**

**(12 DECEMBER 2023)**

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[1] The Court has received an application dated 5 December 2023 from Dayandra Hettige, seeking the production of evidence from the Applicant related to the:

- (a) Specifications and the origins of the receptor panels, including the chemical composition of the panels.
- (b) Specifications of inverters and associated ancillary equipment, inclusive of their chemical compositions.
- (c) On-site emergency management procedures and safety equipment.
- (d) The source and volume of water the Applicant will use during construction and following site implementation and ensuing operations.



FAR NORTH SOLAR FARM LIMITED

[2] I understand Ms Hettige wishes to better understand potential fire risk and the risk of contamination to water from the solar farm.

[3] It is the responsibility of the Applicant to meet the evidential burden of providing sufficient information to the Court to make the decision it seeks. As such, it can be anticipated that evidence will be produced in the course of this proceeding which responds to those risk factors, among other things. The evidence timetable (yet to be set) will then allow sufficient time for such material to be assessed and responded to by the other parties to the proceedings.

[4] As such, I am not minded to order the production of such information at this early stage. The lack of an order does not, however, preclude the Applicant from voluntarily supplying the information sought prior to any evidence exchange or identifying where in the materials already lodged, such information may be found. By way of example, I note that Figure 7 of the Glint and Glare Study indicates a SMA Sunny Central 4200 UP Inverter whereas the Marshall Day Acoustic Report indicates at page 7 that “no specific inverter supplier has been selected at this stage of the project. There are two major manufacturers of inverters that are used on most solar projects, although other manufacturers may be considered”. The Applicant may, therefore, already be in a position to clarify this matter.

[5] Finally, and for completeness, I note that Ms Hettige’s request refers to the information being sought on behalf of the South Wairarapa Whenua Advisory Group (SWWAG). As set out in the Court’s Minute dated 29 November 2023, SWWAG is not a party to these proceedings.

  
L.J Semple  
Environment Judge

