



**Notification of
REFERRAL DECISION – not controlled action if undertaken in a particular manner**

Axedale Solar Farm, near Bendigo, Victoria (EPBC 2020/8730)

This decision is made under sections 75 and 77A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).


Proposed action

person named in the referral	UPC Renewables Australia Pty Ltd ACN: 616 856 672
proposed action	To construct and operate a solar farm, including ancillary infrastructure and equipment, approximately 25 km east of Bendigo, in central Victoria [See EPBC Act referral 2020/8730].

Referral decision: Not a controlled action if undertaken in a particular manner

status of proposed action	The proposed action is not a controlled action provided it is undertaken in the manner set out in this decision.
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Person authorised to make decision

Name and position	Declan O'Connor-Cox Acting Assistant Secretary Environment Assessments (Vic, Tas) and Post Approvals Branch
signature	
date of decision	8 October 2020

manner in which proposed action must be taken	The following measures must be taken to avoid significant impacts on listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)
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Measures to protect the Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia ecological community; Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*); Regent Honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*) and Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*).

1. **Tree protection zones** must be established for all **eucalyptus trees** and native vegetation **patches** to be retained as shown in Appendix 1.
2. **Tree protection zones** established for **Grey Box Woodlands** must be not less than 15 metres.

Definitions:

Construction means all physical works associated with the proposed action, including digging and drainage and any preparatory works required to be undertaken, including temporary buildings but excluding the installation of temporary fences and signage.

Development footprint means the area identified as 'Impact area' as shown at Appendix 1

Eucalyptus trees means trees of the eucalyptus genus occurring within the **development footprint** including White Box (*Eucalyptus albens*), River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), Yellow Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*), Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) and Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*).

Grey Box Woodlands means the EPBC Act listed ecological community Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia.

Impact and Impacted means a loss or reduction in extent or quality.

Patch and Patches means a discrete and continuous area of the ecological community but including small-scale disturbances such as tracks or breaks.

Tree protection zone means an area established in accordance with the Australian Standard AS 4970-2009 – *Protection of trees on development sites* prior to commencement of **construction** and maintained during **construction** and where **construction** activities, vehicles, machinery or equipment are not allowed.

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