RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY (OTHER THAN WIND ENERGY FACILITY)

Purpose
To facilitate the establishment and expansion of renewable energy facilities, in appropriate locations, with minimal impact on the amenity of the area.

Application
This clause applies to an application under any provision of this planning scheme to use or develop land for a renewable energy facility (other than a wind energy facility).

Application requirements
An application must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- A site and context analysis, including:
  - A site plan, photographs or other techniques to accurately describe the site and the surrounding area.
  - A location plan showing the full site area, local electricity grid, access roads to the site and direction and distance to nearby accommodation, hospital or education centre.

- A design response, including:
  - Detailed plans of the proposed development including, the layout and height of the facility and associated building and works, materials, reflectivity, colour, lighting, landscaping, the electricity distribution starting point (where the electricity will enter the distribution system), access roads and parking areas.
  - Accurate visual simulations illustrating the development in the context of the surrounding area and from key public view points.
  - The extent of vegetation removal and a rehabilitation plan for the site.
  - Written report and assessment, including:
    - An explanation of how the proposed design derives from and responds to the site analysis.
    - A description of the proposal, including the types of process to be utilised, materials to be stored and the treatment of waste.
    - Whether a Works Approval or Licence is required from the Environment Protection Authority.
    - the potential amenity impacts such as noise, glint, light spill, emissions to air, land or water, vibration, smell and electromagnetic interference.
    - the effect of traffic to be generated on roads.
    - the impact upon Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal cultural heritage.
    - A statement of why the site is suitable for a renewable energy facility including, a calculation of the greenhouse benefits.
    - An environmental management plan including, a construction management plan, any rehabilitation and monitoring.
Decision guidelines
Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines of Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The effect of the proposal on the surrounding area in terms of noise, glint, light spill, vibration, smell and electromagnetic interference.
- The impact of the proposal on significant views, including visual corridors and sightlines.
- The impact of the proposal on strategically important agricultural land, particularly within declared irrigation districts.
- The impact of the proposal on the natural environment and natural systems.
- The impact of the proposal on the road network.

Amendment VC161 transitional provisions
Clauses 19.01-2S and 53.13 of this planning scheme, as in force immediately before the approval date of Amendment VC161, continue to apply to an application to use or develop land for a renewable energy facility (other than a wind energy facility) lodged before the approval date of Amendment VC161.

Clauses 14.02-3S and 66.02-12 of this planning scheme do not apply to an application to use or develop land for a renewable energy facility (other than a wind energy facility) lodged before the approval date of Amendment VC161.