

## **Appendix J: Objectives and Policies Assessment**

### Partially Operative Selwyn District Plan

Objectives and policies under appeal are in red.

Table 9: POSDP Objectives and Policies		
Objective	Policy	Comment
<b>Strategic Directions</b>		
<b>District Identity</b>		
<b><u>SD-DI-01</u></b> – Sensational Selwyn	N/A	The proposal is considered to be consistent with this objective and will maintain Selwyn as an attractive and pleasant place to live, work and visit. The development will integrate with the existing environment at Hororata and will enhance the environmental and economic outcomes for the Selwyn District by providing for a new renewable electricity activity to support the district.
<b><u>SD-DI-02</u></b> – District Wellbeing and Prosperity	N/A	It is considered the proposal will support Selwyn’s prosperous economy and community through the new renewable electricity generation activity. The proposal is considered to be an efficient and appropriate use of land and resources, and is not incompatible with the surrounding area or will result in reverse sensitivity effects.

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<b><u>SD-DI-03</u></b> – <i>Integration and Land Use, Ecosystems, and Water – Ki Uta Ki Tai</i>	N/A	Land and water resources will be managed through an integrated approach as part of this proposal and the importance of ki uta ki tai to Ngāi Tahu will be recognised.
<b><u>SD-DI-04</u></b> – <i>Our Environment</i>	N/A	This proposal recognises and protects places, landscapes, features and indigenous biodiversity which make an important contribution to Selwyn’s environment and cultural heritage.
<b><u>SD-DI-06</u></b> – <i>Thriving Rural Communities</i>	N/A	For the reasons assessed in Section 6.4, it is considered the proposal integrate with, and retain, the rural character of the rural area surrounding the site. Rural production activities will also be maintained on the site.  The site does not meet the POSDP definition of highly productive land.
Infrastructure, Risk, and Resilience		
<b><u>SD-IR-01</u></b> – <i>Community Needs</i>	N/A	The proposed solar array and its connection into the regional electricity distribution network is considered compatible with the safe and efficient operation of the electricity distribution network (important infrastructure).

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		The solar array will also support the needs of the community by providing electricity generated from a renewable energy source.
<b><u>SD-IR-03 – Natural Hazards</u></b>	N/A	The proposal will not increase the risk from natural hazards to people, property and important infrastructure.
<b>Energy and Infrastructure</b>		
<b><u>EI-04</u></b> <i>Optimise and increase renewable electricity generation outputs for national, regional, and local use while minimising adverse effects on the environment and sensitive activities.</i>	<b><u>EI-P2</u></b> <i>Minimise the adverse effects of important infrastructure, and renewable electricity generation on the physical and natural environment by:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>encouraging the co-location of structures and facilities where efficient and practicable.</i></li> <li><i>locating, designing and operating development while minimising the effects on, the amenity values of the surrounding environment, public access and the health and safety of people.</i></li> <li><i>limiting the presence and effects of development within Outstanding Natural</i></li> </ol>	<p>It is considered that proposal is consistent with this objective and policy as the proposed solar array will increase renewable electricity generation outputs for the region whilst also minimising adverse effects on the physical and natural environment for the same reasons assessed on Section 6.0 of this AEE.</p> <p>The site is not located within any Outstanding Natural Landscapes, Visual Amenity Landscapes, natural character areas, areas of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna, sites of historic heritage, or sites and areas of significance to Māori.</p>

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	<p><i>Landscapes, Visual Amenity Landscapes, natural character areas, areas of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna, sites of historic heritage and sites and areas of significance to Māori to those which:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>a. are recognised as important infrastructure; and</i></li> <li><i>b. can demonstrate an operational, technical or functional requirement for the location, or there are practical constraints requiring it to locate in a particular area with high natural, visual amenity, cultural, or historic heritage value; and</i></li> <li><i>c. can demonstrate through site, route or method selection the minimisation of effects on the environment; and</i></li> <li><i>d. integrate design measures and management methods to mitigate adverse effects.</i></li> </ul>	

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	<p>4. <i>considering biodiversity off-setting in accordance with EIB-SCHED5 or compensation where the loss of significant indigenous vegetation or the effects on significant habitats of indigenous fauna or wetlands cannot be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</i></p> <p>5. <i>using the substantial upgrade of important infrastructure and renewable electricity generation as an opportunity to reduce existing adverse effects, where the efficiency, effectiveness or resilience of the important infrastructure or renewable electricity generation is not compromised.</i></p> <p>6. <i>providing for the maintenance, operation, upgrade or expansion of important infrastructure on highly productive land where there is a functional or operational requirement to locate the infrastructure on that land whilst:</i></p>	

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	<p><i>a. minimising or mitigating any actual or potential cumulative loss of highly productive land; and</i></p> <p><i>b. avoiding if possible, or otherwise mitigating, any actual or potential reverse sensitivity effects on land-based primary production activities.</i></p>	
	<p><b><u>EI-P4</u></b></p> <p><i>Manage the adverse effects from the construction and operation of important infrastructure, and renewable electricity generation, including noise and vibration.</i></p>	<p>It is considered that the site location, proposed construction methodology, and construction management plans (ESCP and DMP) are appropriate for managing the adverse effects from the construction of the solar array.</p> <p>The operation of the solar array will also meet the applicable permitted noise standards in the POSDP.</p>
	<p><b><u>EI-P5</u></b></p> <p><i>Avoid radio, electric, and magnetic fields that do not meet the applicable and recognised standards or guidelines.</i></p>	<p>Any radio, electric and magnetic fields produced by the proposed solar array will be well within the applicable and recognised standards or guidelines, and likely not discernible beyond the boundary of the site.</p>

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	<p><b><u>EI-P9</u></b></p> <p><i>Provide for renewable electricity generation activities across the District, while having particular regard to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. The potential benefits of the proposed activity, particularly contributions to national energy objectives, renewable electricity generation targets, or climate change mitigation;</i></li> <li><i>2. The technical and operational requirements of renewable electricity generation activities;</i></li> <li><i>3. The availability of renewable electricity generation sources;</i></li> <li><i>4. The location and efficient use of existing electricity generation and distribution infrastructure;</i></li> <li><i>5. The potential to provide an affordable, self-sufficient source of electricity to individuals and small communities.</i></li> </ol>	<p>This proposal will provide for a medium size renewable electricity generation activity utilising solar energy within the Selwyn District and will result in the positive effects described in Section 6.2.</p>



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<b>Natural Hazards</b>		
<p><b><u>NH-O1</u></b></p> <p><i>New subdivision, use, and development, (except for new important infrastructure and land transport infrastructure where NH-O2 applies instead):</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>is avoided in areas where the risks from natural hazards to people, property and infrastructure are assessed as being unacceptable; and</i></li> <li><i>in all other areas, is undertaken in a manner that ensures that the risks of</i></li> </ol>	<p><b><u>NH-P3</u></b></p> <p><i>Restrict new subdivision, use or development of land in areas outside high hazard areas but known to be vulnerable to a natural hazard, unless any potential risk of loss of life or damage to property is appropriately mitigated.</i></p>	<p>It is considered the proposed development can appropriately mitigate the risks from flooding hazard on people and property through the siting of the development and the height of the structures above ground level.</p>
	<p><b><u>NH-P5</u></b></p> <p><i>When determining if new subdivision, use, or development is appropriate and sustainable in relation to the potential risks from natural hazard events, have particular regard to the effects of climate change.</i></p>	<p>It is considered that the effects of climate change will not cause the natural hazard risk to the site to be unacceptable and the development is still considered appropriate for the site.</p>
	<p><b><u>NH-P10</u></b></p> <p><i>In areas within the Plains Flood Management Overlay that are not a high hazard area, provide for :</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>important infrastructure and land transport infrastructure; and</i></li> </ol>	<p>Any principal buildings proposed as part of the development will meet the appropriate floor levels above the 200 year Average Return Interval (ARI) design flood level.</p>

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<i>natural hazards to people, property and infrastructure are appropriately mitigated.</i>	2. <i>any other new subdivision, use, and development only where every new residential unit or principal building has an appropriate floor level above the 200 year Average Return Interval (ARI) design flood level.</i>	
	<p><b><u>NH-P12</u></b></p> <p><i>Manage earthworks undertaken in the Waimakariri Flood Management Overlay and the Plains Flood Management Overlay to ensure that they do not exacerbate flooding on any other property by displacing or diverting floodwater on surrounding land.</i></p>	The proposed earthworks will be designed to ensure they do not exacerbate flooding on any other property.