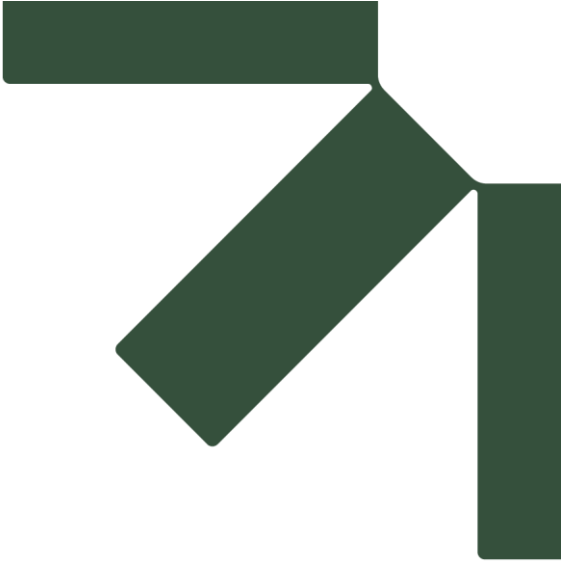




Appendix CC Draft Restoration and Planting Plan

Fast-Track Approvals Act 2024 Substantive Application

Hinuera Solar Farm

Harmony Energy NZ #6 Limited

SLR Project No.: 880.016894.00001

19 August 2026



Draft Restoration and Planting Plan

Harmony Hinuera Solar Farm

Part A: Restoration and Planting Management Plan
Part B: Weed and Animal Pest Control Management Plan

Harmony Energy NZ #6 Limited

Level 10 The Shortland Centre, Tower 2,
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Prepared by:

SLR Consulting New Zealand Limited

SLR Project No.: 880.016894.00001

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16 July 2026

Revision: 1.0

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Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
1.0	16 July 2026	Andrew Briggs	Emily Buckingham / Hamish Dean	Hamish Dean
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Basis of Report

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting New Zealand Limited (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with Harmony Energy NZ #6 Limited (the Client). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Client. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.

Statement of Qualifications and Experience

Andrew Briggs – Associate Ecologist, SLR Consulting

I am an Associate Ecologist at SLR Consulting Limited (SLR). SLR is a global environmental and advisory consultancy specialising in sustainability and climate change strategy, planning, environmental management and impact assessment and waste management and remediation. I have been employed at SLR since October 2022.

I hold the qualification of Master of Science: Conservation Ecology from the University of Stellenbosch (2016). I have been a member of the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme since September 2023.

I have over ten years of ecological assessment experience, across South Africa and New Zealand. My experience includes completing wetland, aquatic, terrestrial and faunal ecological assessments and management plans for a variety of proposed infrastructural and environmental monitoring projects.

Recent projects I have worked on include the Ōpunake, Marton and Carterton solar farms which were approved under the Covid-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020.

I confirm that, in my capacity as author of this report, I have read and abide by the Environment Court of New Zealand Practice Note 2023, and in particular section 9 the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses.



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Appendices

Appendix A	General Arrangement of Proposed Solar Farm
Appendix B	Proposed Mitigation Planting Plan



Acronyms and Abbreviations

ED	Ecological District
FAC	Facultative plants
FACU	Facultative upland plants
FACW	Facultative wetland plants
NPK	(N) Nitrogen, (P) Phosphorus, (K) Potassium
OBL	Obligate wetland plants
WRPMP	Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background and site description

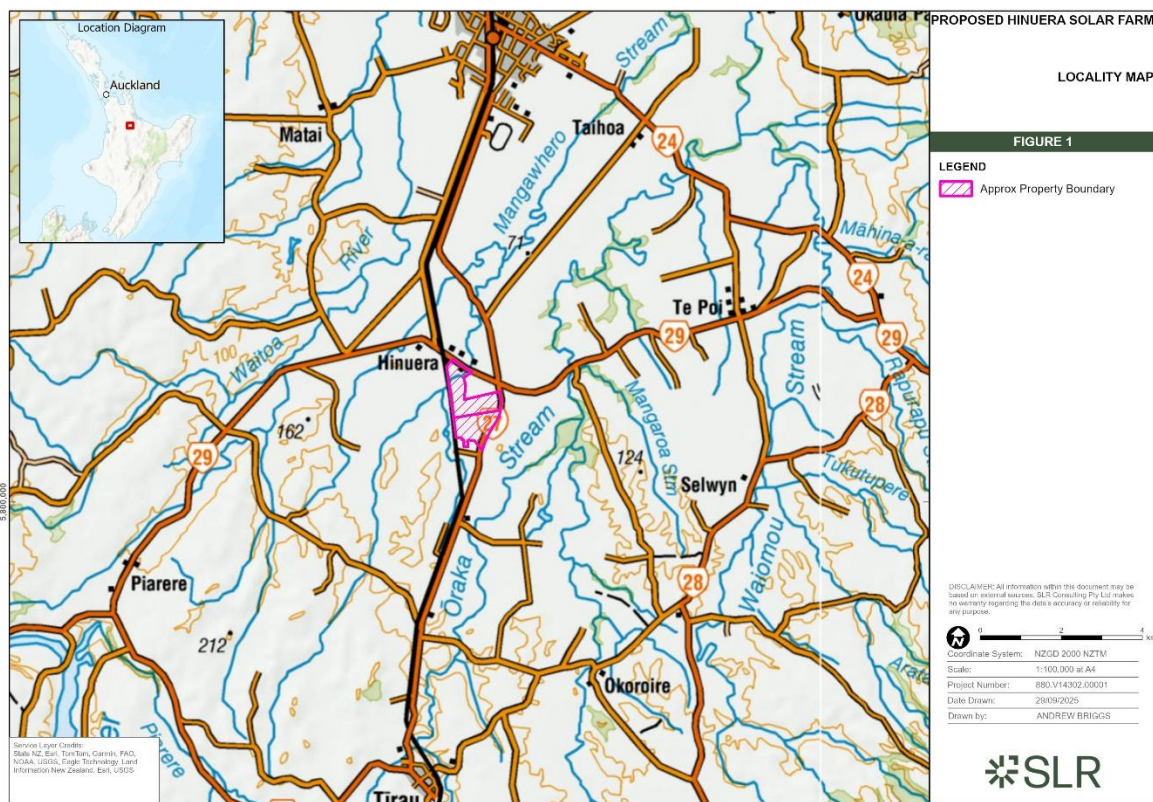
Harmony Energy NZ #6 Limited is proposing the development of a ~70MW AC/100MW DC solar farm ('the site') at the corner of State Highway 29 and State Highway 27 near Hinuera, within the Matamata – Piako District. A map showing the locality of the site is provided in Figure 1, below.

The solar farm infrastructure is to be located within an existing agricultural operation where the majority of landcover is pasture for livestock grazing. The proposed solar farm will comprise solar panel arrays, underground cabling, internal roading, inverter stations, battery stations, a switch station, operational buildings and perimeter fencing.

Existing farm races are proposed to be used for access roads as far as possible, however, earthworks are required for the installation of necessary infrastructure including required stations and substations, additional internal roading, posts / poles to support the solar panels as well as trenching for underground cabling. The general arrangement of the proposed solar farm is provided in Appendix A.

The site covers an area of approximately 154 hectares and is currently set in exotic grassland used for stock grazing. The site is situated within the Hinuera Ecological District (ED) which is dominated by pasture for dairy farming. Historically the ED would have comprised ferns and swampland with intermittent forest patches.

Figure 1: Locality map for the proposed solar farm.



1.2 Report purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a draft restoration and planting management plan (Part A) and a draft weed and animal pest management plan (Part B) to be submitted as part of the substantive Fast Track application.

Following on from the ecological impact assessment report (SLR, 2026), this report provides guidance on restoration of wetland and riparian areas as well as recommendations made by the project's landscape architect (Wayfinder, 2026) for the planting of boundaries.

The restoration plans focus on the protection of water values, ensuring no further degradation, and ideally enhancement of aquatic values and water quality at the site. This is reflected in the proposed stream plantings, restoration of wetland habitat and the change of farm system to less intensive sheep farming among solar panels in the remaining parts of the site.

The aim of these restoration and management plans is to create connectivity to the wider landscape and enhance the habitat for indigenous flora and fauna on the site. Planting zones were designed to integrate the site in an ecologically sound and cohesive way within the wider landscape by ensuring habitat connections / corridors for faunal species are created.

This report collates the two management plans required as part of the Fast Track application:

- Part A: Draft restoration and planting management plan; and
- Part B: Draft weed and animal pest control management plan.

Part A provides detail on planting zones, ways to protect and enhance existing vegetation, and ongoing management and monitoring of the plantings.

Part B provides detail on weed and animal pest control management, and ongoing management and monitoring requirements.



2.0 Part A: Draft Restoration and Planting Management Plan

2.1 Existing environments

The existing environments encountered on site are described briefly in sections 2.1.1. to 2.1.3., below, while a map visually depicting the extent of each habitat type is included in Figure 2.

2.1.1 Terrestrial habitat

Three terrestrial vegetation types were identified on site, namely, exotic pasture grass cover, exotic tree shelterbelts / plantations, and exotic hedgerows.

Pasture grass was the dominant landcover on site which is expected given that the predominant land use within the properties is cattle grazing. Common pasture grasses observed within this vegetation type included rye grass, paspalum and cocksfoot. Common herbaceous species within pasture included clover, plantain, celery-leaved buttercup, creeping buttercup, clustered dock and broad-leaved dock.

Exotic tree shelterbelts were located intermittently within the greater study site, whilst smaller stands and sporadic individual trees were also present. Dominant exotic tree cover on site included macrocarpa, radiata pine, London plane, various gums, willows, poplar and cedar. A low abundance of cabbage trees was located around a wetland on the western extent of the site at the boundary of both properties.

Hedgerows located on the edges of certain paddocks within the study area were dominated by barberry, with an overall lower abundance of Japanese honeysuckle, Chinese privet, English ivy, blackberry, Muehlenbeckia spp. and smilax.

2.1.2 Wetland habitat

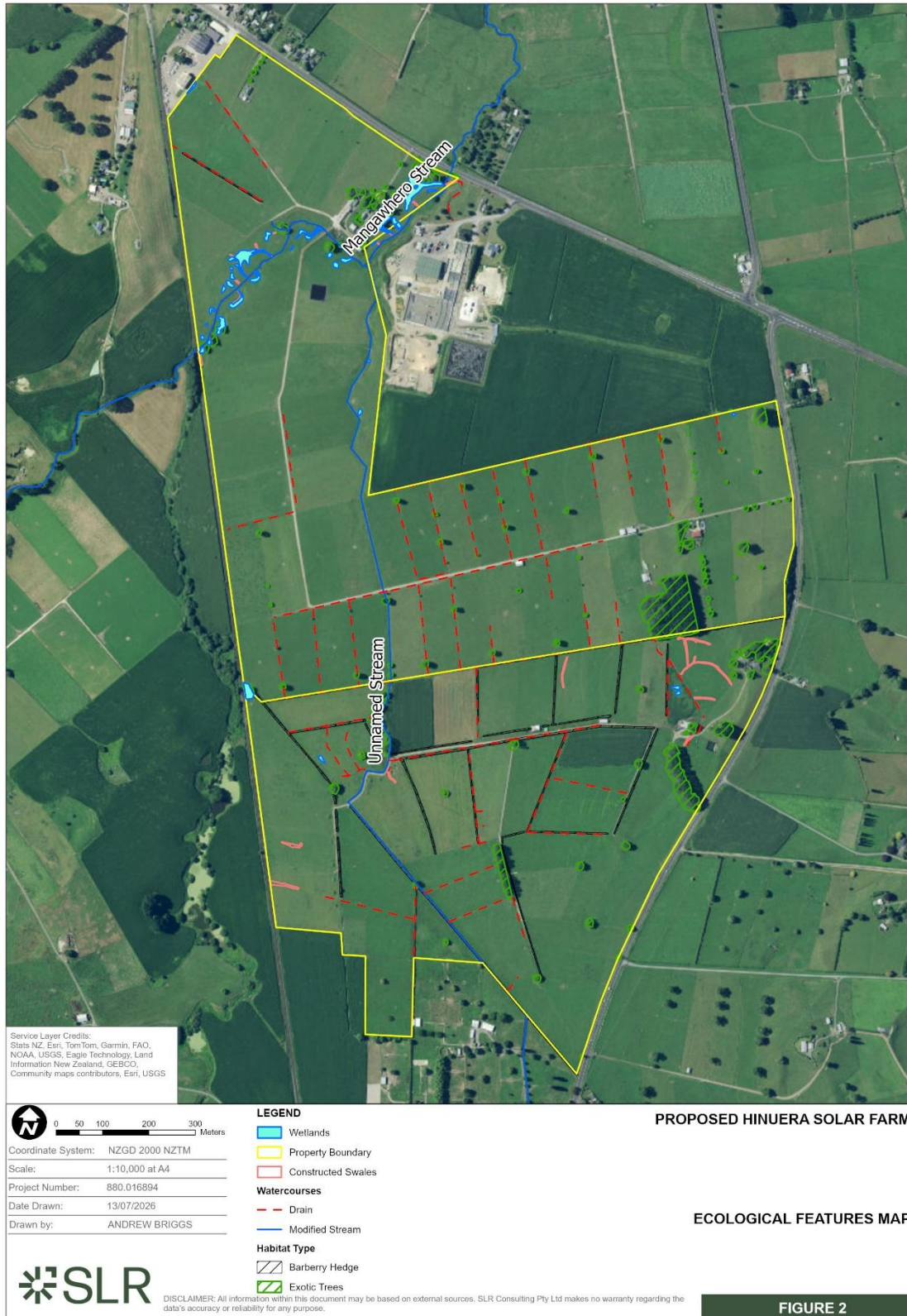
Wetlands within the proposed development site were generally found within the macro channel of the Mangawhero Stream in the northern extent of the development site, with a few additional wetlands found sporadically within low points of the site. The identified wetlands were dominated by either Obligate (OBL) or Facultative Wetland (FACW) exotic grasses which included reed sweetgrass, blue sweet grass, creeping bent and mercer.

2.1.3 Watercourses

Two streams were identified on site, namely, the Mangawhero Stream and an unnamed tributary of the Mangawhero Stream. The streams have both been modified by straightening and shortening and comprise *Persicaria* spp. within the marginal wet zone while the banks are vegetated primarily by rank grasses. The streams are generally fenced off from stock although there was evidence of stock incursion into certain parts of both streams.



Figure 2: Ecological features of the proposed solar farm site. Note all non-shaded habitat within the property boundary constitutes exotic pasture.



2.2 Planting zones

Enhancement and restoration plantings proposed for the site will have a positive impact on local biodiversity and water quality. The key planting zones are the wetlands and macro channel area associated with the Mangawhero Stream as well as a 10m buffer of the Mangawhero Stream and the unnamed Stream within the site extent. The different planting zones are presented within the proposed mitigation planting plan provided in Appendix B.

Species chosen to be planted at this site have been identified as suitable for the Hinuera ED and include species that could provide a source of food, seed, and cultural resources for local iwi.

2.2.1 Terrestrial boundary planting

A condensed area of screen planting is proposed to follow certain sections of the boundary of the development site, primarily to reduce the view to the site from SH29 and SH27, in accordance with proposed landscape mitigation (Appendix B; Wayfinder, 2026). The proposed terrestrial boundary planting species will have an ecological benefit through the provision of a food source and cover for fauna, including birds and lizards. Three woody species proposed for restoring the boundary areas have been included in Table 1, below, while specifications for the hedge planting along SH 27 and specific tree planting are provided in Table 2 and Table 3, respectively. Note that areas of pasture should be cleared of exotic grasses around proposed planting areas, as far as practicable, and rapidly planted to increase the seedling survival rate, and overall likelihood of successful restoration.

Height restrictions are in effect throughout the majority of proposed restoration areas, given the nature of the forthcoming landuse, however, the southern corner of the site will include 11 tītoki, which will eventually exceed 15 m (see Table 3; Appendix B).

Table 1: Specifications for the screen planting

Total Area: 0.750 Ha		Total number of plants: 3,299					
Scientific name	Common name	Type	Spacing (cm)	Pot size	% composition	No.	Notes
<i>Corokia cotoneaster</i>	Korokio	Shrub	200	PB5/3L	30	989	Up to 3 m tall
<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>	Broadleaf	Tree / Shrub	150	PB5/3L	35	1155	Up to 5 m tall
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	Five-finger	Tree / Shrub	200	PB5/3L	35	1155	Up to 8 m tall

Table 2: Specifications for the hedge planting on SH27

Total Area: 0.260 Ha		Total number of plants: 519					
Scientific name	Common name	Type	Spacing (cm)	Pot size	% composition	No.	Notes
<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>	Broadleaf	Tree / Shrub	200	PB5/3L	100	519	Up to 5 m tall



Table 3: Specifications for the tītoki trees

Total Area: n/a		Total number of plants: 11					
Scientific name	Common name	Type	Spacing (cm)	Pot size	% composition	No.	Notes
<i>Alectryon excelsus</i> subsp. <i>excelsus</i>	Tītoki	Tree	1000	PB8/5L	100	11	Up to 20 m tall

2.2.2 Streams planting

Improving the habitat quality along the two streams on site, will enhance the riparian and marginal zones through improved cover and habitat complexity. It is recommended that a selection of pioneer native trees, shrubs and sedges are planted to establish a sheltered microclimate, whilst existing pasture grasses should be retained for bank stabilisation. This exotic groundcover should be outcompeted over time once the native vegetation establishes in these areas.

The stream planting area has been determined through the application of a 10m wide buffer on each side of the streams, excluding where the buffer zone is outside the development property or within the extent of an existing road.

The proposed list of native vegetation for planting within the riparian zone is provided in Table 4, below.



Table 4: Planting specifications for the riparian and marginal zones of the streams on site.

Total Area: 2.384 Ha		Total number of plants: 48,898					
Scientific name	Common name	Type	Spacing (cm)	Pot size	% composition	No.	Notes
<i>Austroderia fulvida</i>	Toetoe	Grass	100	PB3/2L	6	1430	Up to 1.5m tall
<i>Carex geminata</i>	Cutty grass / rautahi	Sedge	50	PB3/2L	15	14304	Up to 1m tall
<i>Carex secta</i>	Pukio	Sedge	50	PB3/2L	15	14304	Up to 1.5m tall
<i>Carex virgata</i>	Swamp sedge / pūrei	Sedge	50	PB3/2L	15	14304	Up to 1m tall
<i>Coprosma areolata</i>	Thin-leaved coprosma	Shrub	150	PB5/3L	5	530	Up to 5m tall
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i>	Mingimingi	Shrub	150	PB3/2L	5	530	Up to 4m tall
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	Karamū	Shrub	200	PB3/2L	10	596	Up to 6m tall
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	Tī kōuka	Tree	100	PB3/2L	5	1192	Up to 12m tall
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	Mahoe	Tree	200	PB3/2L	10	596	Up to 12m tall
<i>Phormium tenax</i> *	Harakeke / flax	Herb	150	PB5/3L	6	636	Up to 2m tall
<i>Veronica stricta</i>	Koromiko	Shrub	200	PB5/3L	8	477	Up to 1.8m tall

*Not to be planted too close to the edge of the channel as mature and large, individual plants can topple into the channels and cause issues with obstructing flows.

Examples of stream habitat within the site extent are provided in Photo Set 1, below.



Photo 1: (A-B) View of marginal and stream bank habitat to be planted as part of restoration works.



2.2.3 Wetland areas planting

A series of wetlands and low-lying areas within the macro channel of the Mangawhero Stream have been earmarked for restoration through planting of recommended species listed in Table 5, below. By planting the wetland areas with species that would have historically existed in this area prior to human impacts, the natural integrity of the landscape will be (partially) restored. Besides providing nutrient filtration and localised flood attenuation benefits, the area will also provide habitat for native species including birds and insects.

The recommended planting mix has accounted for the observed level of wetness within the remnant wetlands as well as height restrictions around the solar panels (i.e. low-growing herbaceous wetland species and shrubs should be planted on the periphery of systems, where practicable). Note the wetland indicator status rating of the proposed species, which will assist in the correct distribution of vegetation within the wetland extents.



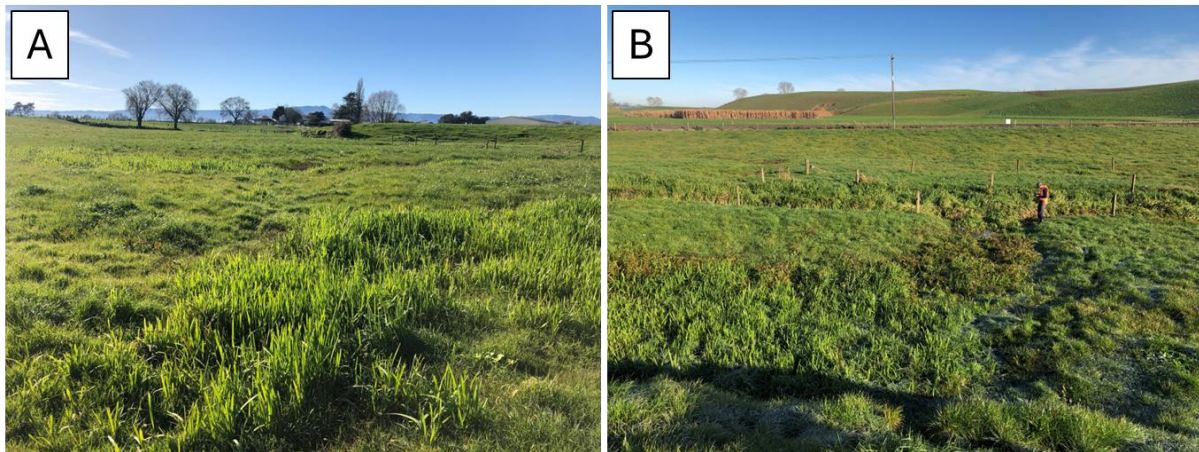
Table 5: Planting specifications for the wetlands and macro channel areas on site

Total Area: 2.428 Ha			Total number of plants: 44,109					
Scientific name	Common name	Type	Status	Spacing (cm)	Pot size	% composition	No.	Notes
<i>Austroderia fulvida</i>	Toetoe	Grass	FAC	100	PB3/2L	10	2428	Up to 4m tall
<i>Carex secta</i>	Pukio	Sedge	OBL	50	PB3/2L	10	9712	Up to 1.5m tall
<i>Carex virgata</i>	Pukio/swamp sedge	Sedge	FACW	50	PB3/2L	20	19424	Up to 1m tall
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i>	Mingimingi	Shrub	FAC	100	PB3/2L	3	728	Up to 6m tall
<i>Coprosma tenuicaulis</i>	Hukihuki	Shrub	FACW	100	PB3/2L	6	1457	Up to 2.5m tall
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	Cabbage tree	Tree	FAC	100	PB3/2L	6	1457	Up to 12m tall
<i>Cyperus ustulatus</i>	Giant umbrella sedge	Sedge	FACW	50	PB3/2L	6	5827	Up to 2m tall
<i>Machaerina rubiginosa</i>	Baumea	Sedge	OBL	200	PB3/2L	12	728	Up to 1.2m tall
<i>Machaerina tenax</i>	-	Sedge	FACW	200	PB3/2L	8	486	Up to 0.8m tall
<i>Parablechnum minus</i>	Swamp kiokio	Fern	FACW	200	PB3/2L	4	243	Up to 1.5m tall
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	Harakeke / flax	Herb	FAC	150	PB3/2L	15	1619	Up to 2m tall

Examples of wetland habitat associated with the Mangawhero Stream are provided in Photo set 2, below.



Photo 2: (A-B) Wetland habitat to be planted adjacent to the Mangawhero Stream.



2.3 Site preparation and plant establishment

We recommend initial spray of *Glyceria maxima* within the wetlands and buffer area in order to reduce competition with planted seedlings. Ongoing maintenance by an experienced contractor will be needed to keep the site weed free after planting and target new arrivals early before they spread.

Weed and animal pest control measures as described in Section 3.2 in Part B of this report should be followed to achieve the best results for plant establishment. Ongoing maintenance and monitoring of weeds and animal pests is required to minimise loss of planted species for a minimum of a three-year period or until a canopy cover of no less than 90% native plant species has been achieved and exotic plant species occupy no more than 2% of ground cover.

Plants should be eco-sourced from the Hinuera ED or as close to the site as practical. Eco-sourcing is the process of propagating native plants from local areas and planting them back within the same region. This helps maintain the genetic diversity of local plants, ensures plants are adapted to local conditions and retains the unique character of the landscape.

Planting of the boundary and general dryland areas should be undertaken in autumn (April – May, inclusive) whilst the wetland and streams should be planted in early summer when water levels are relatively low. Planting should be done according to best practice as follows:

- Topsoil shall be used in areas where soils have been disturbed by earthworks and that require revegetation;
- Plants are watered well prior to planting;
- If possible, exposed plants are not left in the sun and wind for more than five minutes;
- Plants should be at least twice the height of their container, not root-bound, and be vigorous and disease free;
- Planting holes are twice the size of the plant container;
- A slow-release fertiliser is used in all planting holes. Fertiliser is to be a NPK general shrub and tree fertiliser;
- Any larger trees should be staked with non-treated wooden stakes ensuring plants are not restricted by ties and guys;



- Trees and plants shall be positioned in the locations and quantities shown on the plan in Appendix B and in Tables 1 – 3, respectively. Smaller shrubs and grasses should be planted in a randomised sequence in clusters, ensuring a variety of microhabitats; and
- At completion of the planting, all plants shall be healthy and of good form, with the planting areas tidy and weed free.

2.4 Fencing

To prevent stock access into the restoration areas, a stock-proof fence will need to be erected. Although fences currently exist along sections of the stream, upgrades to the fences and widening of the stream buffer may be required to ensure sheep and cattle cannot enter the newly planted areas.

Fences should be at least 7-wire post and batten. Gates may be allowed for access purposes such as pest animal monitoring and weed control. However, any gates should be kept shut and properly secured at all times in order to exclude livestock.

As fences are subject to damage over time the condition of the fences should be monitored, and any damaged sections restored as soon as possible.

2.5 Ongoing maintenance and monitoring

Ongoing maintenance will be required to ensure plants establish and reach a sufficient maturity to be self-sustaining. The frequency of maintenance shall be determined by the planting contractor as necessary to achieve a 90% survival rate.

Plant maintenance shall include the following:

- Watering of all trees and shrubs may be required in the event of a drought during the summer;
- Weeding of all planted areas up to nine times annually following planting in the first year and reducing thereafter. Weed control by hand and/or chemical as required; and
- Replace dead or damaged plants during planting season only to ensure the required coverage is maintained.

In general, grass weeds and any other competing vegetation should be removed from around the planted natives at least 4 times annually until complete groundcover is achieved during the first 2-3 years, particularly in open pasture. It takes between 3-5 years before native plantings are well established and achieve canopy cover.

Monitoring shall be undertaken bi-annually in summer to check for plant disease, and in March/April to assess the requirement for infill planting where plants may have died. Planted species that die, are damaged, or are suffering from disease during or before the end of the 5-year period, shall be replaced every planting season (April – October) for the 5-year maintenance period, with a plant of the same species and grade as itemised in Section 2.2. until a canopy cover comprising no less than 90% native plant species has been achieved.

2.6 Timeline

The maintenance and replacement planting plan as detailed in this report needs to be implemented for a minimum of three years or until a canopy cover comprising at least 90% native plant species has been achieved. A timeline of when to undertake initial/replacement planting has been provided in Table 6, below.



Table 6: Timeline for necessary replacement planting

Year 1 – 3	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Initial/replacement planting*				X	X	X	X	X	X			
Monitoring**			X	X								X
Ongoing	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Replacement planting*				X		X				X		
Monitoring				X								X

*Where necessary; **start following first planting season



3.0 Part B: Draft Weed and Animal Pest Control Management Plan

3.1 Weed management

3.1.1 Existing environment

A low abundance of weedy species were identified within the pasture areas and hedgerows within the site. Aside from herbaceous dock and buttercup within the pasture areas, key woody pest plants within the hedgerows included barberry, smilax, English ivy, Chinese privet, Japanese honeysuckle and blackberry. Multiple hedgerows within the central parts of the site will be removed for development while some hedgerows on the periphery of the development property will be progressively replaced by native species (per Section 2.2., above).

Table 7, below, includes information on the pest plants observed during the visit and their status within the Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan (WRPMP, 2022). There are no specific management recommendations within the pest management plan for the pest plant species on site although measures to control species are available on the Weedbusters website (Weedbusters, 2025).

3.2 Weed control methods

3.2.1 Objectives

The priority for pest plant (weed) control is to remove those species that have the potential to alter or disturb natural processes in established native vegetation or prevent establishment of native vegetation. Most hedgerows and shelterbelts across the site will be removed during construction therefore the main priority for weed control is to remove weeds within the remaining hedgerows and the riparian areas. Ongoing monitoring for potential weed species will be required following initial planting within the site.

Restorative planting within the site should establish a sufficient native canopy over a period of between three to five years, provided regular maintenance, replacement (where necessary) and weed control is undertaken.

3.2.2 Control methods

Eradication of weed species from the site will require two different methods of control to be undertaken on a regular basis, namely;

- Direct application of herbicide, which is the preferred control method for large infestation of species such as sprawling weeds (i.e. blackberry) as it minimises soil disturbance and presents a low risk of spray drift or damage to non-target vegetation. All weed control requiring the use of herbicide is to be undertaken by a qualified and experienced contractor.
- Manual weed eradication, which can be used in areas where it is not possible to use spray or use herbicide control. This may be the best method for some situations where weeds occur near the streams.

Weed control methods for the species present at this site are provided in Table 7, below.



Table 7: Pest plants and control for the proposed solar farm

Scientific name	Common name	Programme (WRPMP, 2022)	Control (Weedbusters, 2025)
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Blackberry	Site-led	- All year: Manually dig out small patches. Dispose of roots and rhizomes at refuse station, through burning or deep burying; or - All year: Small patches, scrape stem and paint with undiluted glyphosate; or - All year: Small patches, cut and paint stumps with glyphosate (200ml-500ml/L); or - Summer / Autumn: spray plant with metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (7.5g/15L) or a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (60ml/15L) or triclopyr 600 EC (60ml/15L).
<i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>	Barberry	N/A	- All year: Manually dig out small patches. Dispose of roots and rhizomes at refuse station, through burning or deep burying; or - All year: Cut and paint stumps as soon as possible after cutting with glyphosate gel (120g/L) or metsulfuron gel (10g/L) or picloram gel (43g/L); or - Spray plant with glyphosate (360g/L) herbicide (20ml/L) with an organosilicone penetrant (2ml/L) or spray plant with metsulfuron (360g/kg / 0.5g/L) herbicide with an organosilicone penetrant (3ml/L) or spray plant with triclopyr (360g/L) herbicide with an organosilicone penetrant (1ml/L).
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Smilax	N/A	- All year: Dig out tubers, disposal of tubers at refuse station, through burning, leave at site to rot; or - Spring / early summer: spray plant with glyphosate (20ml/L + penetrant) herbicide.
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English ivy	N/A	- All year: Manually dig out or hand pull the ivy and dispose of roots and rhizomes at refuse station, through burning or deep burying; or - Spray plant with metsulfuron herbicide (0.5g/L) with an organosilicone penetrant (3ml/L) or triclopyr herbicide (600g/L active ingredient) at 6ml/L with an organosilicone penetrant (3ml/L) .
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese privet	Site-led	- All year: Manually dig out or hand pulling the seedlings; or - All year: Cut and paint stumps as soon as possible after cutting with glyphosate gel (120g/L) or metsulfuron gel (10g/L); or - Basal spray stems that are up to 20cm diameter with X-Tree Basal; or - Drill downward sloping holes approximately 8 – 10 cm apart or make relatively deep cuts around base (do not ringbark), then saturate holes with metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg (20-50g/L + penetrant)



Scientific name	Common name	Programme (WRPMP, 2022)	Control (Weedbusters, 2025)
			or a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (undiluted); or Spray plant with metsulfuron herbicide (0.5g/L) with an organosilicone penetrant (3ml/L) or triclopyr herbicide (600g/L active ingredient) at 6ml/L with an organosilicone penetrant (3ml/L) or picloram/triclopyr herbicide (picloram 100g/l and triclopyr 300g/l active ingredient at 6ml/L) plus organosilicone penetrant (1ml/L).
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle	Site-led	- Dig out small sites (all year round). Dispose of roots and stems at a refuse transfer station, burn or bury deeply; or - Cut and paint stump: within 10-15 minutes of cutting, paint cut surfaces with a liberal dose of triclopyr 600 EC (100ml/L) or dicamba 50g/L (200ml/L); or - Cut and paint stump (all year round): metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (5g/L) or a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (200ml/L) or picloram gel. Leave vines in trees to die, dispose of cut stems at a refuse transfer station, burn or bury deeply.

3.3 Ongoing maintenance

Weed re-growth should be regularly monitored and follow-up weed control should be done as required. It is much easier to maintain weeds at low levels permanently than to control them if they can re-grow to a greater extent. All invasive pest plants must be controlled in accordance with the section 3.2 of this report at the time of initial planting and any replacement planting if required and on an ongoing basis. This plan needs to be implemented for a minimum of three years or until exotic plant species have been excluded from the native planting areas.

3.4 Timeline

A timeline for when to control weeds is provided in Table 8, below.



Table 8: Timeline for weed control

Year 1 – 3	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Weed control		X		X		X		X		X		X
Monitoring**	X		X		X		X		X		X	
Ongoing	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Replacement planting*			X			X			X			X
Weed control		X			X			X			X	

4.0 Pest animal management

European rabbit, brown hare and a feral cat were observed during the site survey whilst brushtail possum, Norway rat and black rat were identified through the eDNA sample. It is likely that other pest animals such as mustelids and hedgehogs are at least occasionally present within the general area.

Establishing a regular, ongoing animal pest control programme would be beneficial to the long-term recovery of indigenous flora and fauna at the site.

Monitoring the planting areas for any signs of pest animals may help with adapting the pest animal management accordingly, which in turn would increase the effectiveness of the control regime. Tracking tunnels can be used to monitor the level of small mammals present within the area.

Pest animal control measures should be implemented for a minimum timeframe of five years, targeting key animal pest species such as possums, rabbits, rats, and mustelids.

In addition to providing benefit to the success of plantings and enhancing natural regeneration opportunities for indigenous plants, controlling pests will also provide benefits for indigenous invertebrates, birds and lizards. The implementation of an ongoing pest control programme for the proposed solar farm operation would result in the best possible ecological outcome for the restoration effort.

4.1 Possums

Possums can be controlled using Timms Traps (or similar kill traps) located on trees along the boundary of the site. Possum control should initially be undertaken by an experienced pest management contractor but can be maintained in the long term by either contractors or the landowners/site managers.

Traps should be set in a pulsed manner, four times per year for the first three years to obtain initial population reduction, reducing to twice a year following that. Trapping should take place in June and October to have the most effect on protection of flora and fauna. Each trapping 'pulse' period should comprise a minimum of two consecutive weeks. Traps should be checked twice in the first week and once in the second week, as a minimum. If capacity allows additional checks within the first 4 nights will be beneficial.

In areas with limited scrub/forest habitat, reinvasion by possums from surrounding habitats is likely to be high. Pulse trapping is therefore recommended to exceed the minimum of two weeks pulse. Pulse time can be re-evaluated over time when catch rates decrease.



Traps should be secured to trees (or fence posts out of reach from stock) so that when sprung they will remain in position. Possum specific lure should be used e.g. apple with cinnamon, icing sugar and flour. No meat or fish should be used due to risks for non-target animals such as cats.

Should Goodnature A12 Possum Traps with counters be used, these can be used year-round and won't be used in a pulsed manner. Increased checks are required prior to June and October to ensure the gas canisters are still full. The counters allow the trapper to keep track of the number of kills by each trap.

Specific locations will be determined on site by an experienced pest management contractor. If landowners intend to undertake possum control themselves, plan to set possum traps where you see obvious possum sign at the base of trees and fence posts, and on pad runs (tracks made by possums).

Traps should be placed 30cm off the ground at 100-150 m spacings on trees or fence posts, well away from stock access along the inside of fencelines.

4.2 Mustelids

For mustelid control, kill-traps such as DOC 200s or self-setting Goodnature A24 Rat and Stoat Traps are recommended. The types of lure, trap maintenance (e.g., lure replenishment) and specific locations should be determined on site by a pest management contractor. Following the initial set-up of mustelid control by an experienced pest management contractor, in the long term, mustelid control can be maintained by either contractors or landowners/site managers.

Mustelid control varies seasonally. For protection of birds, the best time to trap mustelids is during late spring and summer. Fortnightly trap checks from October to April, and monthly checks from May through to September will deliver protection for all bird species. Mustelids often follow pre-existing tracks or natural linear features with low vegetation. Mustelids will investigate any tunnels and burrows encountered while hunting, and trap tunnels or covers should be used to cover the set traps. This will also prevent the capture of non-target birds and animals. When the catch-rate of rats is high, it is likely that the number of mustelids will increase in the area. More frequent checks in this period are recommended primarily to remove rats from traps, particularly when no self-resetting traps are used.

Place traps along the boundary of the site and along linear features such as streams and hedgerows where mustelids are most likely to encounter the traps. Bait traps with fresh fish, poultry, rabbit, or an egg. Salted rabbit works well and lasts longer than fresh meat, and commercial dried rabbit baits are available. Never wash traps after they have caught a mustelid, as the scent left by the captured animal will attract others, acting as a natural lure.

Place away from stock access at 100–150m intervals along the inside of wetland and/or stream margin fence lines. Ensure dogs and livestock cannot access any bait.

4.3 Rats

Rats and other small rodents can be controlled using bait stations or kill traps such as Victor Traps, or self-resetting traps (e.g. Goodnature A24 or Auto Traps AT220). Rodent control should be undertaken across the entire area in a pulsed manner four times per year with each pulse being six consecutive weeks long. Traps should be checked every 1 - 3 days. Optimum starts for pulse trapping are August, November, February, and April (all 6-week trapping pulses). Following the initial set-up of rat control by an experienced pest



management contractor, in the long term, this can be maintained by either contractors or landowners/site managers.

As rats and other rodents are likely to be numerous, a toxin such as diphacinone may have to be used initially to reduce rat numbers in the first instance. Trapping can then be used to keep rat numbers low.

Pin or chain rat traps down. Rat traps last longer if the base and metal parts are oiled and if they are set inside a tunnel (one end closed). Bait traps with peanut butter or chocolate buttons for rats.

In general, for the most effective control of rats, it is recommended that rat bait stations or kill traps be placed at 50-100m intervals about 10–20cm off the ground on trees, or in tunnels, away from stock access along the inside of fencelines. The same network of bait stations as for possums can be used, but extra traps or stations may be required in between to reduce spacing. Ensure dogs and livestock cannot access any bait.

4.4 Ongoing maintenance

All invasive pest animals must be controlled in accordance with section 4.1. to 4.3. of this report at the time of initial planting and on an ongoing basis to ensure plants establish and reach a sufficient maturity to be self-sustaining, and indigenous fauna is protected.

4.5 Timeline

A timeline of when to undertake animal pest control has been provided in Table 9, below.

Table 9: Timeline for animal pest control

Year 1 – 3	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Possum control						X	X	X		X		
Rat control		X		X				X			X	
Mustelid control	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X
Ongoing	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Possum control						X				X		
Rat control	X			X			X			X		
Mustelid control	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X



5.0 Closure

We trust you will find the above in order, should there be any queries regarding the findings kindly contact the author on Andrew.Briggs@SLRconsulting.com.

Sincerely,

SLR Consulting New Zealand Limited



Andrew Briggs, CEnvP
Associate Ecologist



Hamish Dean, MSc
Principal Ecologist

DRAFT



6.0 References

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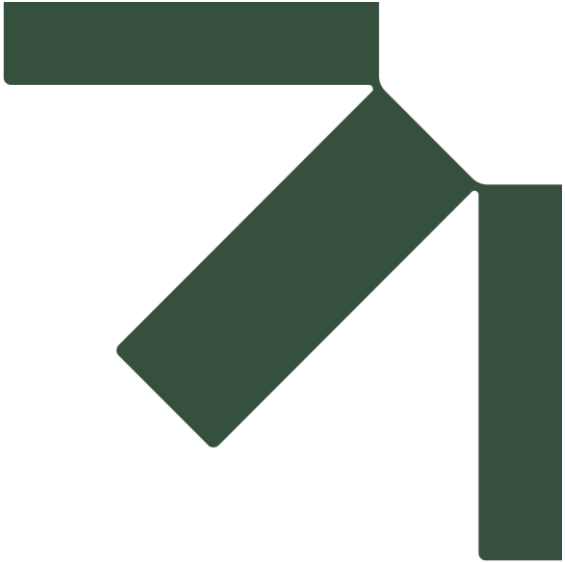
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Appendix A General Arrangement of Proposed Solar Farm

Draft Restoration and Planting Plan

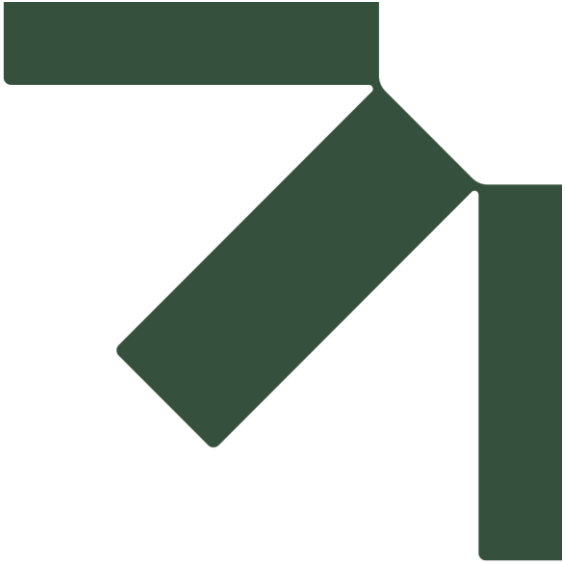
Harmony Hinuera Solar Farm

Harmony Energy NZ #6 Limited

SLR Project No.: 880.016894.00001

16 July 2026





Appendix B Proposed Mitigation Planting Plan

Draft Restoration and Planting Plan

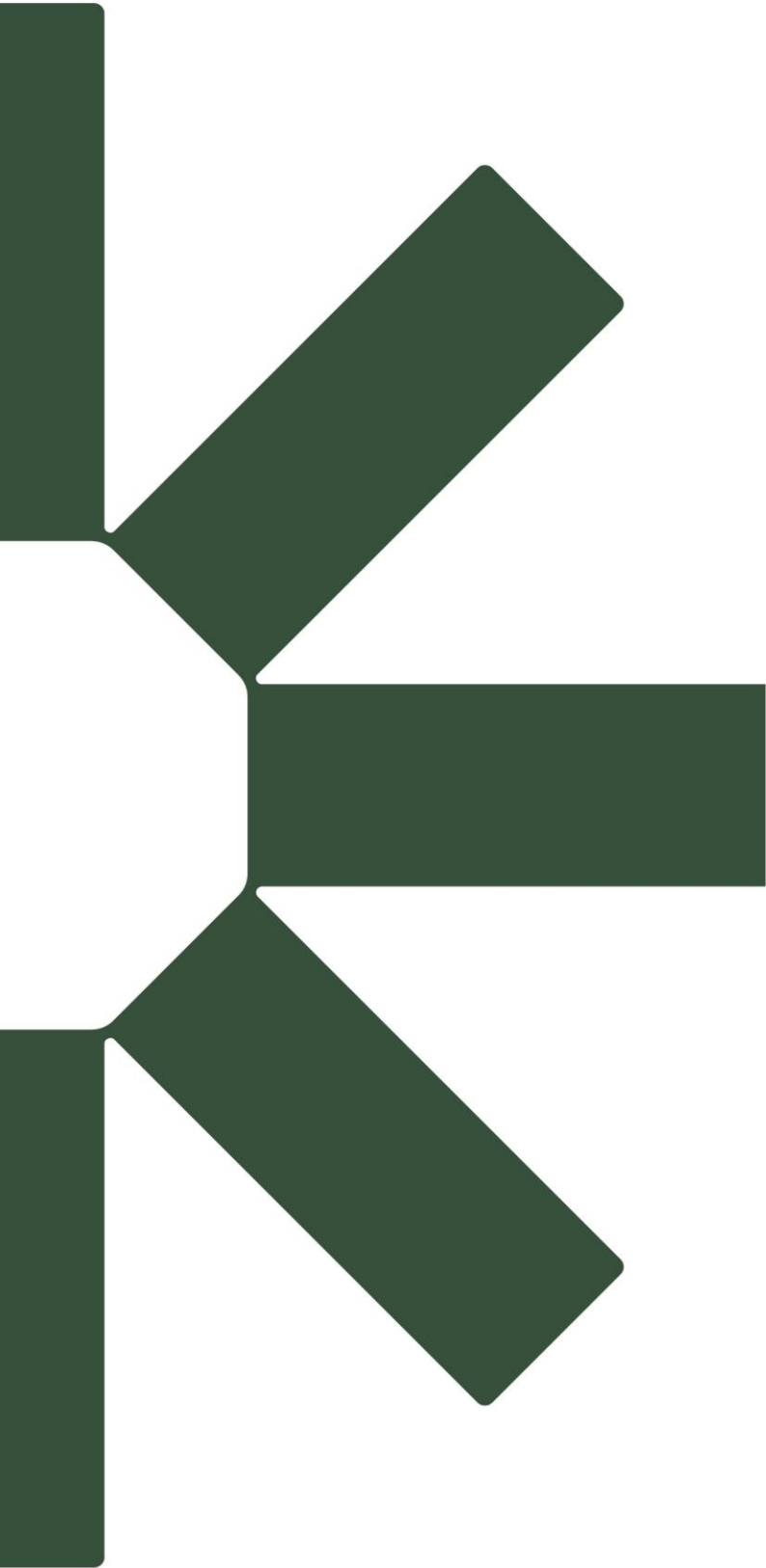
Harmony Hinuera Solar Farm

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