Government Response to Solar Auction Review Recommendations

#	Recommendation	Government response
1	Amend the Territory Plan to consider renewable energy developments in accordance with future releases of capacity.	Agreed in part. The Territory Plan will be reviewed to consider the inclusion of renewable energy developments. The review could potentially lead to a Territory Plan variation.
2	More broadly communicate the separation between the grant of FiT entitlement and project development approval stages.	Agreed. While the Solar Auction framework makes clear that all proposals will be subject to independent Development Approval processes, this could be emphasised more strongly in public communications.
3	Undertake a more collaborative planning phase prior to future releases of capacity.	Agreed in part. Extensive communication was undertaken with stakeholders through the development of the Solar Auction to inform auction design and advise stakeholders of potential impacts on their operations. It is agreed that a comparable or greater level of collaboration should be pursued in the future with relevant stakeholders.
4	Incorporate lessons from the Solar Auction into future evaluation design.	Agreed. Additional transparency and detail can be provided in the future regarding proposal evaluation processes and the weighting of assessment criteria and proposal requirements. Due-diligence consultants can be provided with a joint briefing at project commencement to encourage greater uniformity of assessments, with an opportunity to present assessments subject to agreement by the Advisory Panel.
5	Strengthen program design to support the ACT and Australian renewable energy industry development objective.	Agreed. Now that the overarching policy framework has been positively demonstrated, it is appropriate to include provisions to maximise the extent of local investment under future capacity releases. This is reflected in the Government's <i>Renewable Energy Local Investment Framework</i> .
6	Clarify payment agreement details to provide more confidence for proponents.	Agreed in part. The Government understands that parties are developing a payment arrangement that may be applied as a standard process for proponents in the future. An amendment to the Electricity Feed-in (Large-scale Renewable Energy) Act 2011 will be considered to provide for greater clarity around addressing issues of non-compliance with the Act. It is noted that payments would be publically reported and not 'confidential' as suggested in the Review.
7	Refine Force Majeure and Change of Law clause in the Deed of Entitlement.	Agreed. Further clarification will be considered for inclusion in the standard Deed regarding the circumstances that may be considered a Force Majeure or Change of Law event.