

# BRIGHTE GREEN FINANCING FRAMEWORK

#### **DNV GL EXTERNAL REVIEW OPINION 2020**

# Scope and objectives

Brighte Capital Pty Limited ("BRIGHTE" or "Borrower") has prepared a Green Financing Framework ("FRAMEWORK") for External Review against the Climate Bond Standard ("CBS"), Green Bond Principles ("GBP") and Green Loan Principles ("GLP").

BRIGHTE intends to use the FRAMEWORK as a basis to finance and refinance nominated projects and assets falling under the category:

• Renewable Energy – Solar (Solar PV, Solar Thermal, Solar Infrastructure and Battery Storage)

DNV GL Business Assurance Australia Pty. Ltd. (henceforth referred to as "DNV GL") has been commissioned by BRIGHTE as an independent body to provide External Review of the alignment of the FRAMEWORK to relevant Green Financing Standards and Principles. Our criteria and information covered to achieve this is described under 'Work Undertaken' below.

No assurance is provided regarding the financial performance of any LOAN or BOND, the value of any investments in the associates issuances, or the long term environmental benefits of the transactions. Our objective has been to provide an assessment that the FRAMEWORK has met the criteria of the Climate Bond Standard and the associated Technical Criteria on the basis set out below.

The scope of this DNV GL opinion is limited to the Climate Bond Standard Version 3.0 and Solar Energy Sector Criteria, the Green Bond Principles 2018 and the Green Loan Principles 2020. The primary basis for our assessment has been based on the requirements of the CBS, which meets and exceeds the criteria set out in the GBP and GLP.

### Responsibilities of the Management of BRIGHTE and DNV GL

The management of BRIGHTE has provided the information and data used by DNV GL during the delivery of this review. Our statement represents an independent opinion and is intended to inform BRIGHTE management and other interested stakeholders in a LOAN or BOND as to whether the established criteria have been met, based on the information provided to us. In our work we have relied on the information and the facts presented to us by BRIGHTE. DNV GL is not responsible for any aspect of the nominated assets referred to in this opinion and cannot be held liable if estimates, findings, opinions, or conclusions are incorrect. Thus, DNV GL shall not be held liable if any of the information or data provided by BRIGHTE's management and used as a basis for this assessment were not correct or complete.

# **Basis of DNV GL's opinion**

DNV GL has conducted the review against the CBS v3.0 and associated Sector Technical Criteria, the Green Bond Principles 2018 and the Green Loan Principles 2020 through the creation and execution of a

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testing protocol addressing each requirements of the CBS v3.0, the associated Sector Technical Criteria and the criteria of the Green Bond Principles 2018 and Green Loan Principles 2020. It is noted that the requirements of the CBS meet and exceed the criteria listed within the GBP and GLP. The detail of areas covered in the DNV GL review is summarised in Schedule 1 below.

#### Work undertaken

Our work constituted a high level review of the available information, based on the understanding that this information was provided to us by BRIGHTE in good faith. We have not performed an audit or other tests to check the veracity of the information provided to us. The work undertaken to form our opinion included:

- Creation and execution of a Climate Bond Standard Protocol, adapted to include the relevant Sector Technical Criteria for the FRAMEWORK;
- Assessment of documentary evidence provided by BRIGHTE on the FRAMEWORK and supplemented by a high-level desktop research, onsite visit for documentation review and interviews with key personnel from the issuer BRIGHTE. These checks refer to current assessment best practices and standards methodology;
- Discussions with BRIGHTE management, and review of relevant documentation;
- Documentation of findings against each element of the criteria. Our opinion as detailed below is a summary of these findings.

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# Findings and DNV GL's opinion

DNV GL has performed an External Review of the 2020 BRIGHTE Green Financing Framework. It is within DNV GL's scope of works to provide an independent assessment and statement on the alignment of the BRIGHTE Green Financing Framework with the Climate Bond Standard, Green Bond Principles and Green Loan Principles.

DNV GL conducted the review in accordance with the Climate Bond Standard Version 3.0, The Green Bond Principles 2018, the Green Loan Principles 2020 and with International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Information. The verification included i) checking whether the provisions of the Climate Bond Standard were consistently and appropriately applied and ii) the collection of evidence supporting the review.

DNV GL's approach draws on an understanding of the risks associated with conforming to the Climate Bond Standard, the Green Bond Principles, the Green Loan Principles and the controls in place to mitigate these. DNV GL planned and performed the verification by obtaining evidence and other information and explanations that DNV GL considers necessary to give limited assurance that the BRIGHTE Green Financing Framework is in accordance with the requirements of the Climate Bond Standard and the criteria of the Green Bond Principles and the Green Loan Principles.

Based on the limited assurance procedures conducted, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the BRIGHTE Green Financing Framework is not, in all material respects, aligned with the requirements of the Climate Bond Standard Version 3.0, associated Solar Energy Sector Criteria and the criteria of the Green Bond Principles 2018 and the Green Loan Principles 2020. DNV GL has reviewed the Use of Proceeds and confirms the contribution of Solar Energy to SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy and SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.

#### for DNV GL Business Assurance Australia Pty Ltd

Sydney, 17 August 2020

**Mark Robinson** 

Manager, Sustainability Services DNV GL – Business Assurance

#### **About DNV GL**

Driven by our purpose of safeguarding life, property and the environment, DNV GL enables organisations to advance the safety and sustainability of their business. Combining leading technical and operational expertise, risk methodology and in-depth industry knowledge, we empower our customers' decisions and actions with trust and confidence. We continuously invest in research and collaborative innovation to provide customers and society with operational and technological foresight. With our origins stretching back to 1864, our reach today is global. Operating in more than 100 countries, our 16,000 professionals are dedicated to helping customers make the world safer, smarter and greener.

### **SCHEDULE 1: REVIEW CRITERIA**

#### Summary criteria for assertions of conformance with the Climate Bond Standard v3.0

The criteria against which BRIGHTE and its Green Financing Framework have been reviewed prior to inclusion in the Bond are grouped under the requirements as detailed within the Climate Bond Standard Version 3.0 including:

### **Part A: Pre Issuance Requirements**

Area	Requirement		
Use of Proceeds	Nominated Projects & Assets which are proposed to be associated with the Bond and which have been assessed as likely to be Eligible Projects & Assets.		
Project Selection	Establish, document and maintain a decision-making process which it uses to determine the eligibility of the Nominated Projects & Assets.		
Management of Proceeds	The systems, policies and processes to be used for management of the Net Proceeds shall be documented by the Issuer.		
Reporting Prior to Issuance	The Issuer shall prepare a Green Bond Framework and make it publicly available prior to Issuance or at the time of Issuance.		
Reporting	Reporting on use of proceeds and nominated projects and assets.		

# **Part B: Post Issuance Requirements**

Area	Requirement			
Use of Proceeds	Nominated Projects & Assets which are proposed to be associated with the Bond and which have been assessed as likely to be Eligible Projects & Assets.			
Project Selection	Establish, document and maintain a decision-making process which it uses to determine the eligibility of the Nominated Projects & Assets.			



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Management of Proceeds	The systems, policies and processes to be used for management of the Net Proceeds shall be documented by the Issuer.
Reporting	Reporting on use of proceeds and nominated projects and assets.

# Part C: Eligible projects and physical assets

Nominated projects and assets include financing of or investments in equipment and systems which enable the mitigation of greenhouse gasses, as detailed in Schedule 1.

Area	Requirement
Solar Energy Generation	Projects eligible include terrestrial Solar electricity generation facilities and supporting infrastructure.

# Part D: Certification under the Climate Bonds Standard

Area	Requirement			
Pre Issuance Certification	The Issuer or Holder of a Climate Bonds Standard Certified Instrument must satisfy the Pre Issuance Certification requirements including the completion of all forms, Pre Issuance Verification by an approved verifier and provision of relevant information.			
Post Issuance Certification	The Issuer or Holder of a Climate Bonds Standard Certified Instrument must satisfy the Post Issuance Certification requirements including the completion of all forms, Post Issuance Verification by an approved verifier and provision of relevant information.			
Maintaining Certification	The Issuer or Holder shall provide annual reporting to the CBI and comply with non-conformance correction as required.			



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# SCHEDULE 2: ALIGNMENT WITH UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

## Alignment of the Use of Proceeds against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG)

DNV GL has reviewed the Use of Proceeds and nominated assets associated with the BRIGHTE Framework for alignment with the UN SDGs in the following table:

Use of Proceeds	UN SDG	UN SDG Target		Assessment of Contribution to Achieving the SDG
Renewable Energy	7. Affordable and Clean Energy	7.2	By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.	Compliance with CBI Solar Criteria. The Criteria have been established to ensure alignment with the Paris Agreement 2°C target. Renewable energy generation from terrestrial Solar assets fall within this Criteria. Compliance with the CBI Solar Criteria demonstrates a contribution towards UN SDG 7, Target 7.2.
		7.3	By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency	Compliance with CBI Solar Criteria. The Criteria have been established to ensure alignment with the Paris Agreement 2°C target. Renewable energy generation from terrestrial Solar assets fall within this Criteria. Distributed renewable energy generation reduces demand on electrical transmission, can stabilise distribution and energy supply. Compliance with the CBI Solar Criteria demonstrates a contribution towards UN SDG 7, Target 7.3.
	9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	9.1	Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all	Compliance with CBI Solar Criteria. The Criteria have been established to ensure alignment with the Paris Agreement 2°C target. Renewable energy generation from terrestrial Solar assets fall within this Criteria.  The BRIGHTE Solar receivables have been confirmed to have wide geographic distribution, including regional areas, supporting economic growth and through the financial structuring and leverage of existing government and energy market subsidies, have a focus on affordable access to Residential Solar and supporting infrastructure. This demonstrates a contribution towards UN SDG 9, Target 9.1.