

## CHAPTER 7

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### Assessment of Key Issues

## 7. ASSESSMENT OF KEY ISSUES

A number of issues require assessment in the development of a wind farm. Each issue has varying importance depending on the type and scale of the project. The classification of an issue determines the level of assessment required.

Issues are identified in a number of ways, including:

- Relevance to guidelines, strategic plans or policies produced by the New South Wales government or other governing bodies;
- Reference to other projects, especially those in similar locations;
- Association to research and reference material on wind farms; and
- Outcomes from consultations with stakeholders.

The Director-General's Requirements (DGR's), under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, requires key or additional issues be identified as these issues have the potential to create environmental or human impacts. This Environmental Assessment is structured to address the requested key issues and **Table 7.1** summarises each key issue and the investigation strategies employed. **Chapters 8 to 17** provide greater detail including the methodologies, results and mitigation measures recommended by these investigations for each key issue individually. Additional issues not directly required by the DGR's are identified in **Chapter 18** General Environmental Assessment and **Chapter 19** Socio-Economic Assessment.

**Table 7.1 Key assessment areas related to the Project and methods of investigation**

Key Issue	Addressed	Investigation Strategy
Landscape and Visual	<b>Chapter 8</b>	Assessment by Green Bean Design Pty Ltd, and broader stakeholder communication
Noise	<b>Chapter 9</b>	Assessment by Heggies Pty Ltd, and broader stakeholder communication
Flora and Fauna	<b>Chapter 10</b>	Assessment by Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd, and broader stakeholder communication
Cultural Heritage	<b>Chapter 11</b>	Assessment by New South Wales Archaeological Pty Ltd, and broader stakeholder communication
Traffic and Transport	<b>Chapter 12</b>	Assessment by Bega Duo Designs Pty Ltd
Aviation	<b>Chapter 13</b>	Consultation with key government agencies, the Ambidji Group Pty Ltd and broader stakeholders
Fire and Bushfire	<b>Chapter 14</b>	Assessment by Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd
Electromagnetic Fields	<b>Chapter 15</b>	Desktop review
Communication	<b>Chapter 16</b>	Assessment by Lawrence Derrick and Associates, and broader stakeholder communication
Water	<b>Chapter 17</b>	Consultation with key government agencies and associated landowners
General Environmental Assessment	<b>Chapter 18</b>	Assessment by Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd and desktop review
Socio-Economic Assessment	<b>Chapter 19</b>	Consultation with associated parties and desktop review