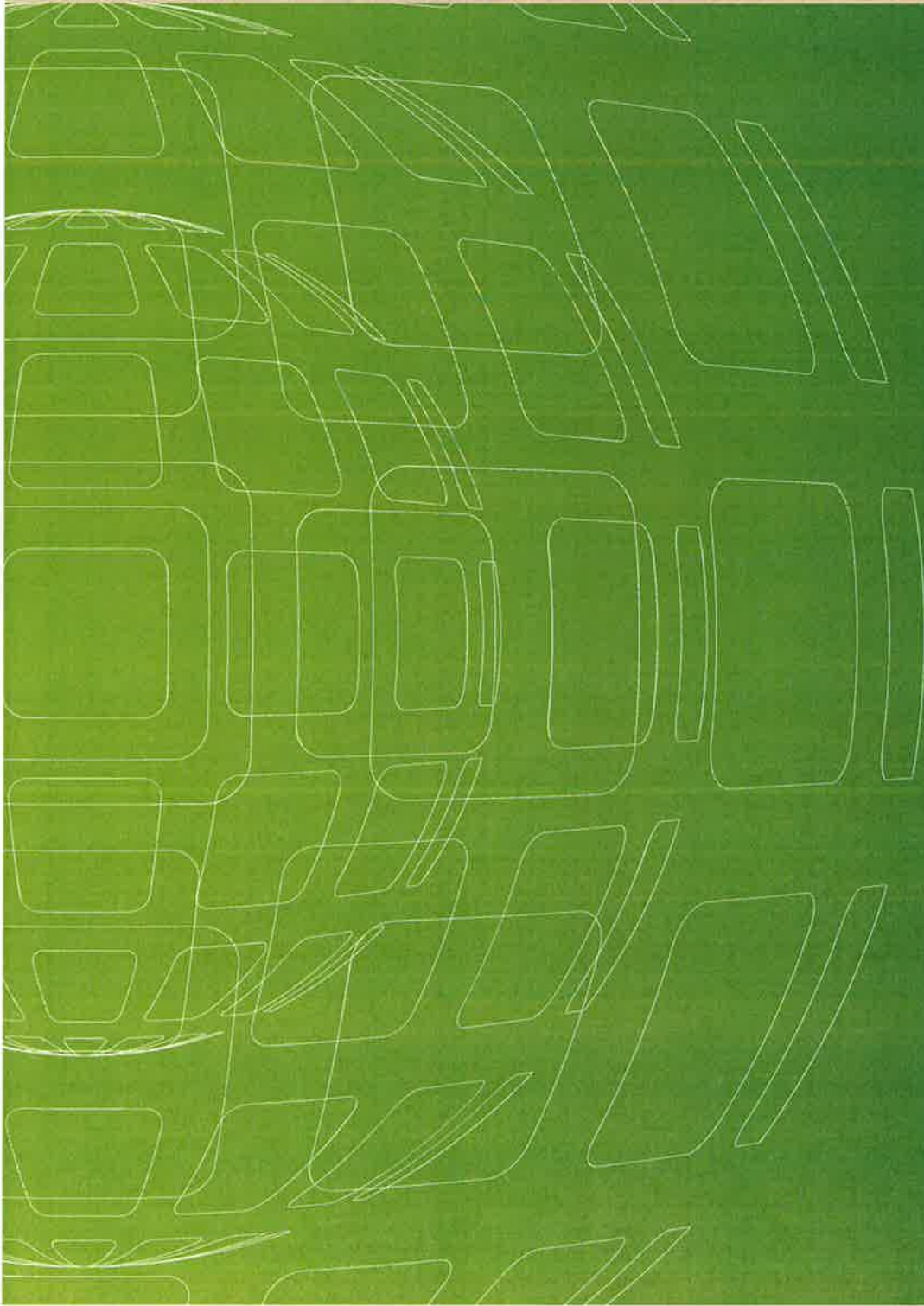


SECTION 6.

Revised Statement of Commitments





6. Revised Statement of Commitments

6.1. Revised Statement of Commitments

Section 16 of the EA presented the draft Statement of Commitments (SoCs) based on mitigation and management measures proposed to address the various environmental issues. There have been 24 amendments to the draft SoCs. Four of these amendments are additional SoCs that have been considered necessary to add to the draft SoCs as a result of the issues raised in the submissions received during the exhibition of the EA. The remaining amendments have been made as a result of refining and consolidating some of the draft SoCs to more effective and concise management measures.

The main amendments are within the visual and landscape, noise and flora and fauna SoCs.

The four additional points include:

- SoC 2.09 - A revised noise assessment will be prepared for the final turbine model and layout, prior to commissioning the wind farm;
- SoC 6.02 – Radar modelling will be undertaken as part of an electromagnetic compatibility study to determine the impact of the Proposal on the PSR at Mt Majura. This will be undertaken prior to pre-construction.
- SoC 11.05 – Undertake groundwater assessment prior to construction for NOW endorsement.
- SoC 14.05 – The Proponent will carry out discussions with the property owner of 'property Z' as per figure 1', toward an agreement.

The amended SoCs are listed below:

- SoC 1.01
- SoC 1.02
- SoC 1.04
- SoC 2.01
- SoC 2.06
- SoC 2.07
- SoC 2.08
- SoC 2.10
- SoC 2.11
- SoC 2.12
- SoC 3.01
- SoC 3.02
- SoC 3.05
- SoC 5.02
- SoC 8.02
- SoC 8.03
- SoC 10.01

- SoC 11.01
- SoC 14.02
- SoC 14.03

Table 37 provides the revised and finalised Statement of Commitments.



Table 37 Finalised Statement of Commitments

Finalised Statement of Commitments					Responsibility		Project Phase		
Item	Impact	Objectives	Mitigation Task				C	O	D
1	Visual & Landscape				Proponent			✓	
1.01	Visual impact from turbines	Reduce visual contrast	Wind turbine generators will be painted matt off-white or grey and blades finished with a low-reflection coating. An off-white or grey colour for the structures will be considered to reduce visual contrast between turbines and the viewing-background						✓
1.02	Visual impact from turbines	Reduce visual impact Provide screening through-landscape-planting	<u>Reasonable landscaping treatments will be provided, if requested, to dwelling owners with views of turbines within 5 km of dwellings.</u> The Proponent will undertake landscape planting where screening is deemed appropriate and in consultation with landowners.						✓
1.03	Visual impact from construction activities	Reduce visibility of construction activities.	Safeguards will be enforced to minimise dust emissions during construction. Height of stockpiles will be restricted.		Contractor	✓			
1.04	Visual impact from night-time lighting	Reduce visual impact. Minimise light spill from project site-lighting	<u>Activities that may require night-time lighting will be minimised and, if necessary, low intensity lighting will be used to minimise light spill from the substation compound.</u>		Proponent	✓			✓
1.05	Visual impact from site infrastructure	Site infrastructure sympathetically	Substation and other ancillary infrastructure will be sited sympathetically to mitigate visual impact.		Proponent	✓			✓
2	Noise				Contractor	✓			✓
2.01	Construction Noise	Minimise noise impact on receivers	Construction and decommissioning activities will be carried out within the following periods only: • Weekdays – 7am to 6pm • Saturdays – 8am to 1pm No work or deliveries will be carried out on Sundays and public holidays, unless previously approved. <u>If any out of hours work is required the relevant permits would be obtained prior to commencement of work.</u>						

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2.02	Construction Noise	Minimise noise impact on receivers	All feasible and reasonable standard work practices specified in the Interim Construction Noise Guidelines (DECC, 2009) would be employed to minimise construction noise impacts	Contractor	✓	✓
2.03	Construction Noise	Minimise noise impact on receivers	Notification and ongoing consultation with potentially affected receivers will be carried out, especially where potentially noisy works are anticipated.	Proponent and Contractor	✓	✓
2.04	Noise from Construction Traffic	Minimise noise impact on receivers	Residents will be notified when deliveries of large loads are scheduled.	Proponent and Contractor	✓	✓
2.05	Construction Noise	Minimise noise impact on receivers	Construction plant will be selected on the basis of low inherent potential to generate noise and vibration.	Contractor	✓	✓
2.06	Construction Noise	Minimise noise emission from construction plant	Construction vehicles will be fitted with mufflers and where possible non-tonal low noise emission reversing alarms.	Contractor	✓	✓
2.07	Construction and Operational Noise	Management of Noise Impacts	Establishment of a Project Complaints Hotline to allow affected residents to register noise concerns, complaints.	Proponent	✓	✓
2.08	Construction Noise	Respond to noise complaints	If noise complaints are received, the affected resident will be contacted to identify the source of noise and suitable mitigation measures that may be required.	Proponent and Contractor	✓	✓
2.09	Operational Noise	Turbine model / layout noise assessment	<u>A revised noise assessment will be prepared for the final turbine model and layout, prior to commissioning to the wind farm.</u>		✓	✓
2.10	Operational Noise	Reduction of turbine numbers as required	The wind farm layout will be determined by compliance of the chosen turbine model with the noise criteria applicable to the development (35dBA (SA EPA)) criterion. If required, non-compliant turbines will be removed from the layout. the chosen turbine model. Turbine locations will be removed from the layout to permit compliance with the SA EPA 35dBA base criterion if required.	Proponent	✓	✓
2.11	Operational Noise	Monitor compliance with noise criteria	<u>Within three months of commissioning, noise compliance monitoring</u> the first twelve months of operation, monitoring of wind farm noise emissions would be undertaken to assess compliance with noise criteria.	Proponent	✓	✓

**Finalised Statement of Commitments**

2.12	Operational Noise	Address any non-compliance with noise criteria	- Where operational noise monitoring indicates the Proposal exceeds noise limits set in the development approval conditions, the following noise mitigation measures shall be implemented to <u>achieve compliance</u>. - using active noise control functions of turbines; - rectify any manufacturing defects or control settings so that noise can be reduced; or - if excesses still occur, acoustic treatment of non-involved receiver dwellings.	Proponent	✓
2.13	Operational Noise	Monitoring the effectiveness of operational noise mitigation measures	Should any of the measures in item 2.12 be adopted, their effectiveness will be verified through noise monitoring in the first 12 months following the implementation of mitigation measures.		✓
3	Flora and Fauna				
3.01	Reduction in local biodiversity	Avoid Protect and conserve areas of high conservation value	- At the design stage: - Infrastructure will be micro-sited with input from an ecologist. - Location of infrastructure in areas of moderate to good condition EEC, forest, and woodland will be minimised. - Clearing of overstorey and mature vegetation, <u>specifically hollow-bearing trees</u>, will be minimised. A management plan for the removal of hollow-bearing trees will be prepared by an ecologist to minimise impacts to resident fauna. <u>Cable routes will follow road corridors, as far as practicable, to minimise additional impacts.</u> - An offset plan will be finalised in consultation with OEH.	Proponent	✓

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3.02	Reduction in local biodiversity from the construction footprint	Minimise extent of construction impacts on biodiversity values	Develop a Construction Flora and Fauna Management Plan (CFFMP) to include the following measures: Impact areas would be minimised through the following measures: • <u>Pre-clearing surveys to confirm locations of threatened flora and fauna species</u> and associated habitats; • <u>Management measures (e.g. clearing procedures, fauna handling and worker induction)</u> to minimise habitat damage; • <u>Delineation of work areas to avoid disturbance beyond construction footprints</u>; • Weed management measures; • <u>Rehabilitation procedures, including identification of seed sources</u>; • Monitoring and review procedures; • sealing would be laid within or adjacent to the road corridor to minimise additional impacts; • any trench left open overnight would be inspected at first light for any trapped fauna; • materials laydown and stockpiling would make use of existing areas of disturbance or other areas of low biodiversity value, where possible; • all construction vehicles will be restricted within the construction zones; • work or vehicle tracking within tree drip lines is to be avoided; and • all onsite staff are to undergo a site induction on the ecological sensitivity of the site.	Proponent and Contractor	✓
3.03	Reduction in local biodiversity through loss of habitat	Retain habitat and biodiversity elements	Habitat elements and biodiversity will be retained through the following measures: • impacts to hollow-bearing trees that have not been specifically identified for removal would be avoided; • fallen timber would be left in place or moved to a nearby area to retain fauna habitat; • where rocky outcrops could not be avoided, a preclearance survey would search and relocate captured reptiles; • rocks would be placed in nearby areas, in consultation with an ecologist;	Proponent and Contractor	✓

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3.04	Reduction in local biodiversity through introduction and spread of noxious weeds	Control the introduction and/or spread of noxious weeds	- Introduction and/or spread of noxious weeds would be controlled through the following measures: - noxious weeds would be controlled according to a Weed Management Plan; - where a specific weed risk has been identified, all machinery, equipment and vehicles are to be washed down before entering and leaving the project site; - onsite staff and contractors will be educated on noxious weeds management; - control of perennial weed grasses within the disturbance zone will be carried out 3 to 5 years after construction; and - stock access during vegetation and soil disturbance will be managed in coordination with landowners.	Proponent and Contractor	✓	✓	✓
3.05	Reduction in local biodiversity from construction activities through degradation of disturbed areas	Progressively rehabilitate disturbed areas	- Rehabilitation would be undertaken progressively in all areas disturbed by the works. - Where feasible, local province native species would be sourced for all revegetation works within native vegetation.		✓		
3.06	Reduction in regionally and nationally significant species	Threatened Species Management	- A Threatened Species Management Plan (TSMF) will be prepared to minimise impacts on threatened species, including: - pre-clearance surveying and monitoring; - handling and relocation of wildlife (if found); - regular site inspections for injured wildlife; and - rehabilitation of areas of high significance.	Proponent and Contractor	✓	✓	✓

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3.07	Bird and Bat Strike	Monitoring of Bird and Bat Strike	An adaptive management monitoring program for birds and bats would be prepared and implemented. This would include: - Intensive monitoring in the first six months of operation as birds and bats are in the process of habituating to the new development; - Regular carcass searches, observation of bird avoidance/diversion behaviour and targeted surveys. - The monitoring program will include identification of key 'at risk' species including: - Little Eagle – searches for foraging activities at the project site. - Eastern Bentwing Bat – monitoring during 'high risk' periods, when this species may be foraging in the area. - The monitoring program will include a set of feasible management measures that can be implemented to reduce collision risks, if required.	Proponent in consultation with technical specialists	✓
4	Indigenous Heritage				
4.01	Damage or disturbance to sites or items of Indigenous heritage significance	Minimisation of potential impacts on sites or items of potential Indigenous heritage significance	An avoidance strategy will be adopted for recorded trees with possible Aboriginal scars. Previously recorded Aboriginal objects listed on the NSW OEH AHIMS will be avoided during construction, operation and decommissioning of the wind farm.	Proponent and contractor in consultation with Aboriginal Community	✓
4.02	Damage or disturbance to sites or items of Indigenous heritage significance	Assess the potential Indigenous heritage impacts in development areas which have not been previously assessed	Additional archaeological assessment will be conducted in any areas proposed to be disturbed which have not been surveyed during the assessment completed to date prior to work commencing.	Proponent in consultation with Technical Specialists	✓

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4.03	Damage or disturbance to sites or items of Indigenous heritage significance	Minimisation of potential impacts on sites or items of potential indigenous heritage significance	An Indigenous Heritage Management Plan (IHMP) will be prepared In consultation with an archaeologist, Aboriginal communities and OEH, to document procedures for impact avoidance.	Proponent in consultation with Technical Specialists	✓
4.04	Damage or disturb areas/ items of Indigenous Heritage	Management of undiscovered items of Aboriginal and/ or archaeological significance	Any items of aboriginal cultural heritage significance (i.e. archaeological items) uncovered during construction will be salvaged prior to the recommencement of construction works. Should human remains be found during the proposed earthworks works will cease and the police notified immediately.	Contractor in consultation with the Proponent and OEH	✓
5 Traffic and Transport					
5.01	Adverse impact on traffic during the construction and decommissioning phases	Minimisation of impact to local and regional traffic	Oversize loads would be transported in accordance with RMS requirements.	Contractor in consultation with RMS	✓
5.02	Traffic safety risks from construction vehicles	Minimise traffic safety risks from movement of construction vehicles	- The relevant approvals will be sought post EA approval to enable upgrading of Lerida Road South entry and exit will be upgraded to accommodate oversize vehicles during the construction phase. - Traffic controllers on Hume Highway will be provided to help assist large trucks exiting the site from Lerida Road South and manage any safety risks; - Speed limits would be enforced on Lerida Road South and internal access roads at all times during construction. - Regular road condition surveys will be carried out during construction, operation and decommissioning; - A procedure will be established to ensure the ongoing maintenance of access roads during the operation phase.	Contractor	✓
5.03	Damage to existing road infrastructure	Protect existing road infrastructure		Proponent and Contractor	✓

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5.04	Amenity impacts from construction and operation traffic	Minimise potential amenity impacts from traffic from the Proposal	Procedures will be established to monitor traffic impacts on public roads.	Proponent, Contractor and Technical Specialists	✓	✓	✓
6	Aeronautical						
6.01	Disruption of flight paths and local aeronautical activities	Minimise risk to aviation	The following information shall be provided to the CASA, AAAA and DoD: - as constructed coordinates in latitude and longitude of each WTG; - final height of each WTG in mAHD; and - elevation at the base of each WTG in mAHD.	Proponent in consultation with technical specialists	✓		
6.02	Potential interference	Avoid interference with operational range of the Primary Surveillance Radar (PSR) at Mt Majura	<u>Radar modelling will be undertaken as part of an electromagnetic compatibility study to determine the impact of the Proposal on the PSR at Mt Majura. This will be undertaken prior to construction.</u>	Proponent	✓		
7	Telecommunications						
7.01	Potential interference	Avoid interference with existing telecommunications facilities	Locations of communications towers and requirements of licence holders will be confirmed and input into the micro-siting of individual turbines.	Proponent and Contractor	✓		
7.02	Prolonged interference or disturbance of communication links	Manage and minimise impacts	At the commencement of operation, the Proponent shall offer to undertake a monitoring program of houses within 5km of the wind farm to determine any loss in television signal strength.	Proponent		✓	

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8 Fire and Bushfire					
8.01	Bushfire risk during construction	Manage bushfire risk	- A Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP) will be prepared in consultation with the RFS and NSW Fire Brigade. The mitigation measures will include: - Construction personnel will be inducted on fire risks; - On total fire ban days, restrictions will be placed on certain activities with the potential to cause fires; and - Basic fire fighting equipment at each active site will be provided, including fire extinguishers, knapsacks. - Dedicated monitoring systems (e.g. SCADA) enable wind turbines to be automatically shut down if ambient temperatures exceed the safe operating range. Wind turbines will be shut down if directed by the RFS in the event of nearby wildfire. <u>Wind turbines will be shut down if directed by the RFS in the event of nearby wildfire.</u>	Contractor	✓
8.02	Ignition of fire due to mechanical malfunction	Minimise risk		Turbine Manufacturer	✓
8.03	<u>Ignition of fire</u>	<u>Minimise risk</u>		Proponent	✓
8.04	Spreading of fire away from wind farm infrastructure	Minimise risk	- The substation would be surrounded by a gravel and area to prevent the spread of fire from the substation and to reduce any bushfire impacts. - An Asset Protection Zone (APZ) would be maintained around the control room and substation buildings, compliant with the RFS guidelines.	Proponent and Contractor	✓
8.05	Fire due to lightning strike on turbines	Minimise risk	Lightening conductors will be built into each of the turbines.	Turbine Manufacture	✓

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9 Health and Safety				
9.01	Wind farm noise	Manage community concerns with respect to wind farm noise	The Proponent will establish a complaints management system to respond to noise complaints from the community.	Proponent
10 Electromagnetic Fields				
10.01	Exposure to EMF	Minimise unnecessary exposure to EMF	The following mitigation and management measures will be implemented: · where feasible, electrical cables will be placed below ground; and · fencing around structures (e.g. substation) to restrict public access.	Proponent and Contractor
11 Water Quality				
11.01	Pollution of waters	Minimisation of pollution risk to surface and ground water.	A Soil and Water Management Plan (SWMP) will be prepared, in accordance with the <u>Blue Book (Landcom, 2004)</u> and the NOW 'Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land', to address: · water retardation and diversion devices around construction areas; · monitoring and maintenance procedures for erosion and sediment control structures; and · suitable perimeter protection and bunding will be provided to the substation transformers to minimise the risk of transformer oil leaks or spills during operation and maintenance. · Spill kits will be provided at oil and fuel storages and on vehicles. · Hazardous material, waste and sewage will be managed in accordance with regulatory requirements.	Proponent and Contractor
11.02	Pollution of local water ways and aquifers	Minimising risk to water quality	Appropriate drainage structures and erosion controls will be incorporated in hardstands, access roads and tracks to manage run-off and reduce the risk erosion and scour from concentrated flows. · Storages of oils, fuels and other hazardous chemicals will be appropriately banded. · All trenching works within drainage lines will be rehabilitated immediately. · Any spoil stockpiles from foundation excavation and access road construction will be located away from drainage lines.	Contractor and Proponent
11.03	Alteration to local hydrology	Minimising adverse impacts on local hydrology		Proponent, designers and Contractor
11.04	Pollution or contamination of local water ways	Minimising pollution of surface water		Contractor

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11.05	Existing groundwater users and groundwater dependent ecosystems	Minimise groundwater impact	Undertake groundwater assessment prior to construction for NOW endorsement.	✓	✓	✓
12	Soils and Landform					
12.01	Ground disturbance	Minimise alteration to soils and landform	- Detailed geotechnical investigations would be undertaken to assess ground conditions and determine the most suitable foundation design for the turbine sites; - Soil compaction resulting from vehicle access and laying of materials will be remediated after construction activities; and - Where possible, access routes and tracks would be confined to already disturbed areas.	✓	Proponent and Contractor	✓
13	Waste					
13.01	Inefficient resource use and waste generation	Promote waste hierarchy	Waste will be managed according to a Waste Management Plan (WMP) as follows: - unnecessary resource consumption will be avoided; - resource recovery (including reuse of materials, reprocessing, recycling, and energy recovery); and - disposal as a last resort.	✓	Contractor and Proponent	✓
13.02	Inefficient resource use	Promote efficient use of water and energy	Energy and water conservation will be promoted through training and signage.	✓	Contractor and Proponent	✓
13.03	Missed opportunities for recycling and reuse	Maximise opportunities for recycling and reuse	- Purchasing decisions will be made in consideration of recycled content and opportunities for reuse; - Cleared vegetation will be chipped and used as mulch for revegetation works; and - Bins will be provided in construction and office areas for segregation of waste and recyclables.	✓	Contractor and Proponent	✓

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13.04	Loss of amenity and potential contamination from waste generation	Minimise risks from waste generation and waste handling	· All working areas will be kept free of rubbish and cleaned up at the end of each work day. · Any contaminated waste will be contained then disposed of according to regulatory requirements.	Proponent and Contractor	✓	✓
14	Community					
14.01	Regional community impacts	Community enhancement and benefit	The Proponent is proposing to establish a Community Investment Fund and contribute approximately \$200,000 to the fund each year.	Proponent	✓	
14.02	Community information	Dissemination of project information	The current website (www.windfarms.net.au) A dedicated project website shall be maintained and updated to include relevant project information.	Proponent	✓	✓
14.03	Community information	Complaint handling and management	In addition to the wind farm website, a 24-hour hotline will be established. Calls will be logged and responded to by CoB of the following working day. The hotline and logging of calls will be managed by or on behalf of the Proponent during the different project phases, and maintained by or on the behalf of the Proponent for the life of the project.	Proponent	✓	✓
14.04	Community information	Dissemination of project information	The Proponent will issue newsletters on a regular basis during the construction phase providing information on the project.	Proponent	✓	
14.05	Property Z as per figure 1 within 2km of WTG	Negotiate management and mitigation measures	The Proponent will carry out discussions with the property owner of 'property Z' as per figure 1' toward an agreement.	Proponent	✓	

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15	Land Use	15.01 Access restriction and safety risks to users of public roads and the Bicentennial National Trail	Minimise access restriction and safety risks	Where sections of the Bicentennial National Trail and other public roads approach operational areas, safety and directional signage will be erected to guide vehicle and pedestrian traffic.	Proponent in consultation with ULSC	✓
16	Air Quality	16.01 Generation of fugitive dust	Monitor and minimise the generation of dust from ground disturbance, spoil stockpiles and construction traffic	A Construction Dust Management Plan (CDMP) will be prepared as part of the CEMP and will include: - Dust levels will be visually monitored and dust suppression (e.g., water sprays) implemented if required. - A water cart will be made available and applied to access tracks and ground disturbance areas. Set appropriate speed limits for construction traffic on internal roads.	Proponent and Contractor	✓