



19 November 2020

Ms Natasha Homsey
Senior Planner, Energy Assessment
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta
NSW 2124

Dear Ms Homsey,

Project Approval MP10_0156 - Collector Wind Farm: Condition A8D

Given the current progress with the construction of the Collector Wind Farm project, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide a brief update in the context of specific requirements of the project approval.

Specifically, I note the obligation of Condition A8D of the above approval, which states:

Prior to the commencement of the construction, operation and / or decommissioning of the the Project, the Proponent shall notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement.

I also note the definition of 'Operation' within the above approval, which states:

[Operation] means the operation of the Project, but does not include commissioning trials of equipment or temporary use of parts of the Project during construction.

I am pleased to confirmed that the Collector Wind Farm Project has now commenced its commissioning phase – following successful registration with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) as a generator in the national electricity market (NEM), the project will be commissioned in stages in accordance with a programme agreed with AEMO and TransGrid.

Under that programme, as I am sure that you are aware, the project is able to generate with specified numbers of turbines up to a specified maximum generation to undertake technical testing to demonstrate secure connection to the electricity transmission network. Once that testing level has been signed off by AEMO and TransGrid, the project is able to move the next (higher) level of generation. This process is known as 'hold point' testing, and the agreed hold points for Collector wind farm are detailed in the following table.

Hold Point	# WTGs	Max Generation (MW)	Min Generation (MW)
HP0	2	8	4
HP1	18	74	59.2
HP2	36	147	117.6
HP3	54	226.8	197

The project is currently generating at HP0, with 2 turbines operating.

As you can probably appreciate the schedule and overall timing of the commissioning phase is dependent on a number of factors – sufficient wind to ensure the minimum generation for the period

of the testing activities, preparation of the formal reporting for submission to AEMO and TransGrid, review and approval of the test by AEMO and TransGrid, as well as no issues arising during testing.

Hence at this stage it is impossible to be definitive on the start date of operations. We anticipate that the testing programme will be successfully completed in the first quarter of 2021, and hence will be able to provide the Department with a specific date for the commencement of operations as that work progresses. I note that, under our contractual arrangements between Proponent and contractor, we have a formal 'Practical Completion' date at which the project construction is deemed completed, and the operational team takes responsibility for the site.

In the meantime, we will also obviously be addressing the other relevant consent conditions for the operational phase of the project, and where required, particular information will be submitted to the Department for review and approval (such as the Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) and pre-operations compliance report).

I will be in touch again in due course, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or would like to discuss this matter further.

Neil Weston

Electronic signature: 19 Nov. 20

Neil Weston

Project Manager

RATCH-Australia Developments Pty Ltd, for and on behalf of Collector Wind Farm Pty Ltd

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