



Tatsiana Bandaruk
Department of Planning, Industry &
Environment
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Sydney NSW 2001

Our ref: DOC20/384792

Your ref: SSD 6693

Emailed:
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26 May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Subject: Rye Park Wind Farm Tip Height Increase – SSD-6693 - Modification

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the above matter. This is a response from the NSW Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience (MEG) – Geological Survey of NSW (GSNSW).

GSNSW has previously advised (OUT12/32272 and OUT14/15072) the proponent to consult with holders of exploration licences which overlie the wind farm project area and present evidence in its EIS of such consultation and its outcomes in order to address the issue of potential impacts of the wind farm upon access to land for mineral exploration.

In August/September 2015, the proponent consulted with the mineral exploration title holders overlying the project area as part of the EIS and Response to Submissions (RTS). Consulted title holders were EL6274, EL8313 and EL6873. No concerns or issues were raised. EL6274 no longer overlaps the project footprint and is approximately 1.3 km to the west. EL8313 and EL6873 have expired and no longer exist.

GSNSW has reviewed the Rye Park Wind Farm Tip Height Increase Modification Report (SSD-6693) and notes on page 74, an assessment of mineral and petroleum resources is not required as the wind farm boundary is similar to the approved project. However, since the proponent last consulted with the title holders in August/September 2015 (as stated above), the mineral exploration titles have changed. Two new exploration titles now overlap the project boundary:

- EL8664 held by ACGH II Pty Ltd, overlaps the northern portion of the project boundary.
- EL8568 held by Duke Exploration Pty Ltd, overlaps part of the western portion of the project boundary.

GSNSW requires the proponent to consult with the above exploration licence title holders to address potential impacts of the wind farm upon access to land for mineral exploration. Current mining and exploration titles and applications can be viewed at:

<https://minview.geoscience.nsw.gov.au/>

GSNSW notes on page 93 of the Rye Park Wind Farm Tip Height Increase Modification Report (SSD-6693), Condition 22, Schedule 3 of consent requires the proponent to prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP). GSNSW requests that should offsite Biodiversity Offsets be considered;



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MEG is to be consulted during the preparation of the BMP to ensure highly prospective resource areas are not sterilised by the retirement of biodiversity credits.

Queries regarding the above information should be directed to the GSNSW - Land Use team at landuse.minerals@geoscience.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven Palmer'.

Steven Palmer

Manager, Land Use Assessment

Geological Survey of NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience.