



OUT22/7767

Ms Natasha Homsey
Major Project Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment

C/Major Projects Portal

Dear Ms Homsey

Review - Valley of the Winds Wind Farm (SSD-10461) (Warrumbungle Shire)

Thank you for your correspondence dated 19 May 2022 about the assessment of the above application.

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture is committed to the protection and growth of agricultural industries, and the land and resources upon which these industries depend. The proposal has outlined the impacts on agricultural land and the loss of agricultural productivity as a result of the conversion of land for infrastructure.

The main comment we wish to raise, in relation to the construction phase is further soil information is to be collected in addition to the geophysical assessment as part of *Environmental Management and Mitigation Measures ID SW7 (Land and Soils) (13.4 Page 371 and Table 19-1, page 472)*.

We encourage additional investigations as part of this. An assessment of representative soil profiles including soil features such as horizon presence and depth, structure, texture, pH, CEC, etc is recommendedⁱ. This would need to be done on a representative land unit basis only to form the base information for the decommissioning and rehabilitation plan in partnership with greater knowledge for the Soil and Water Management Plans being developed for construction.

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please contact me on 0427 949 987 or by email at landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Mary Kovac

Mary Kovac
Agricultural Land Use Planning Officer
Central and Far West
15 June 2022

ⁱ National Committee on Soil and Terrain, 2009. *Australian Soil and Land Survey Field Handbook*, CSIRO Publishing.