

Our ref: Valley of the Winds Wind Farm (SSD-10461)

Mr Jeremy Ellis
Senior Project Developer
ACEN Australia
Customs House
Level 3, 31 Alfred St
Sydney NSW 2000

14/10/2022

Subject: Valley of the Winds Wind Farm - Request for Additional Information

Dear Mr Ellis

I refer to the proposed Valley of the Winds Wind Farm (SSD-10461) project.

Further to our letter dated 21 June 2022 requesting a response to submissions received during the exhibition of the development application, the Department is requesting you provide additional information to assist in the assessment of the application.

- **Visual:** Provide justification of visual impacts on potentially significantly impacted non-associated residences.

You are requested to consider and justify proposed impacts from (but not necessarily limited to) the following turbines and measures to manage impacts as far as practicable.

Turbine	Cluster
GR2, GR3, GR22, GR21, GR28, GR40, GR41, GR50, GR52	Girragulang
LV3, LV4, LV20, LV21, LV22	Leadville
MH3, MH5, MH13, MH14, MH15, MH27, MH28, MH29, MH37, MH38, MH39, MH62, MH63	Mount Hope

In addition, please provide the following:

- full impact assessment, including photomontages and/or wireframe, from residence 284, and any other residences not assessed due to error or incorrectly labelled as 'associated' with the development, ensuring to capture all potential views of turbines; and
- update all photomontages to include turbine numbers and blue sky background.
- **Biodiversity:** Demonstrate avoidance and minimisation of impacts to the Box Gum Woodland Critically Endangered Ecological Community, and other biodiversity values in project design.
- **Traffic:**
 - review the adequacy of proposed intersection upgrades;

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- provide written agreement from the relevant roads authority to the scope of the 'Schedule of Works for Road Upgrades', or any alternate agreed works; and
- address concerns raised in Muswellbrook Shire Council's attached letter dated 14 October 2022.
- **Aboriginal Heritage:** Complete further archaeological surveys on areas with high potential for Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- **Aviation:**
 - address concerns raised regarding impacts on existing air transport routes associated with turbines MH13 and MH25;
 - detail outcomes of consultation with all airstrip operators regarding potential impacts on air strips; and
 - prepare an obstacle lighting plan and assess the visual impact on nearby receivers.
- **Hazards:** Prepare a revised Preliminary Hazard Analysis for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) that provides site-specific details, including the indicative BESS location/s and separation distance of battery units.
- **Workforce accommodation:** Engage further with Warrumbungle Shire and Mid-Western Regional Council regarding accommodation and employment strategy, and provide outcomes of this engagement.
- **Consultation:**
 - Provide evidence of consultation undertaken with relevant government agencies, Council/s and the public regarding the matters outlined above on top of matters raised during exhibition, including any proposed amendments to the project; and
 - clarify the status of neighbour agreements.
- **Voluntary Planning Agreements:** Confirm the status of Voluntary Planning Agreements with Council/s. If general terms have been agreed upon, provide these terms.

If you have any questions, please contact Natasha Homsey on 02 8275 1264 or via email at natasha.homsey@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Nicole Brewer
Director
Energy Assessments

Attachment 1: Muswellbrook Shire Council letter of objection, 14 October 2022