

Winterbourne Wind Farm

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – Crown Lands have reviewed the proposal for Winterbourne Wind Farm – Amendment Report.

Crown Lands has made comment on the proposal previously, and comments made therein remain current. Comments below relate to additional information provided in the Amendment Report.

The proposal included numerous Crown roads where access and infrastructure is proposed. Authority to use, traverse, access or build infrastructure on Crown roads is required under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and/or the *Roads Act 1993*. It is recommended that the proponent contact Crown Lands as early as possible to initiate the processes required to authorise the use of and/or access to Crown roads. Crown road may be applied for closing, upon which then become freehold land owned by the surrounding land holder. While roads remain under administration of Crown Lands, the proponent will require a licence to use, traverse, access or build infrastructure.

The Amendment Report notes that the preferred transport access route now utilises New England Highway and Thunderbolts Way via Uralla. Therefore the original proposal to use Lot 7010 DP 1058937, Lot 7031 DP 105895 and Lot 7016 DP 94120 at Walcha is no longer current and no further consideration of these Crown land lots is required. If the proponent still requires access to these lots they should contact Crown Lands for further advice.

The Amendment Report proposes the use transport access route to include Staces Road (Uralla Council Road) off New England Highway, then Crown Reserve 22232 (Lot 7300 DP 1157667, reserved for the purpose of camping and travelling stock, gazetted 23 February 1895) connecting to Thunderbolts Way. As outlined previously to the proponent, formation of an access road within this Crown Reserve will require the proponent to form an agreement with Uralla Shire Council for Council to acquire a Council road through the reserve, Council having acquisition powers under the *Compulsory Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*. Native Title and Aboriginal Land Claims over the Crown Reserve may be dealt with as part of this process. For further information, the proponent may contact the Crown Lands Acquisitions Team cl.acquisitions@crownland.nsw.gov.au

If the proponent requires further information, or has any questions, please contact Warren Martin, Natural Resources Management Project Officer in Crown Lands, on 02 67703118 or at warren.martin@crownland.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R O'Brien'.

Rodney O'Brien

Group Leader Armidale/Moree

T 02 67703101 | E rodney.obrien@crownland.nsw.gov.au