



Ms Joanna Murphy  
Project Manager  
Neoen Australia Pty Ltd  
Suite 1, Level 10,  
227 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
**By email**

11/11/2021

Dear Ms Murphy

**Thunderbolt Wind Farm (SSD-10807896)  
Supplementary Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements**

I refer to the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued for the Thunderbolt Wind Farm project on 16 December 2020.

The Department is aware that you propose to progress the project in two stages with Stage 1 referring to an area north west of the New England Highway with 32 turbines proposed.

The Department is satisfied the SEARs issued in December 2020 which set the terms of reference for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are sufficient. Further the Department notes that you will need to submit a separate Scoping Report and request for SEARs for Stage 2.

As you are aware, Stage 1 of the project was determined to be a controlled action under the Commonwealth *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999* (EPBC Act) on 28 October 2021, for likely impacts on listed threatened species and communities. Therefore, in accordance with Schedule 2, clause 3(5) of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*, I have enclosed the Commonwealth's requirements for the assessment for Stage 1.

I can also confirm that the administrative procedures in relation to the bilateral assessment process will apply to the assessment of this project under the EPBC Act, so that the Department can undertake an environmental impact assessment of the project to satisfy the requirements of both NSW and Commonwealth legislation.

You must ensure that the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) adequately addresses the SEARs issued on 16 December 2020, and the supplementary requirements attached to this letter.

If you have any further enquiries about these requirements, please do not hesitate to contact Natasha Homsey on 02 8275 1264 or at [natasha.homsey@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:natasha.homsey@planning.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

Nicole Brewer  
Director  
Energy Assessments  
**as delegate for the Planning Secretary**

Attached: Supplementary SEARs