

28 June 2022

Aaron Petersen
Student Planning Officer
Energy, Resource & Industry Assessment | Department of Planning and Environment
4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy St, Parramatta NSW 2150
T 02 9407 2132 | E aaron.petersen@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Aaron,

RE: Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for Baldon Wind Farm project (SSD- 40138508)

Thank you for allowing Murray River Council to provide comments in relation to the Baldon Wind Farm (SSD-40138508), received on 14th June 2022 as a precursor to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. As per the documentation it is understood that the development is proposed to be located approximately 44km East of Balranald in the Murray River and Hay Local Government Areas (LGAs). It is also understood that the development includes the construction, operation, and decommissioning of a wind farm with an estimated capacity up to 1000 megawatts (MW), 162 turbines, and a maximum height of 300m (to blade tip).

Please be advised that Council has no objections to the proposed development, and provides the following comments in relation to the proposal which are recommended to be focuses on in the EIS:

Location and limitation of consent

Firstly, Council notes that the Draft SEAR's for Baldon Wind Farm details the proposed development is located on Baldon Road, approximately 44km west of Balranald in the Murray River and Hay LGAs. Council is aware the proposed site is approximately 44km east of Balranald. Council requests this is amended to accurately detail the correct location.

It is also noted that the submitted SEARs indicates that consent has been sought for a period of thirty (30) years. Therefore, Council requests that this requirement appropriately conditioned on any consent granted.

Road / Vehicle Access

Council acknowledges and agrees with the significant level of information requires to be provides as outlined within the attached document in order for a thorough assessment to be completed. It is noted that formal approval under the Roads Act 1993 may be required to be provided by Council as part of the approval process.

Dilapidation Report

Council request that a Dilapidation Report be completed and provided to Council prior to works commencing. Such may be called upon if damage to Council assets require rectification, including roads and infrastructure.

Waste Management and decommissioning of ancillary facilities

Council requests the waste component be strengthened to change the emphasis to resource recovery. It is therefore recommended to comment against the key issues 'waste' be amended to state the following:

"Identify, quantify and classify the likely waste streams to be generated during construction and operation. Describe the measures to be implemented to manage these materials and ensure recovery and reuse is maximised and any material disposal is undertaken safely and any impact on the environment is minimised"

Council also requests that any ancillary facilities form part of the development be removed on site once the wind turbines are decommissioned and request that the site be rehabilitated to the original status and suitable correspondences be provided to Council's satisfaction.

Housing availability

It is requested the Proponent address how required workers during construction and operation will be suitably housed. This is requested to ensure Council can be prepared to assess and plan for any further housing requirements in the surrounding areas.

Temporary concrete batching plants

It is recommended sufficient planning and environmental information is provided by the proponent regarding any required temporary concrete batching plants to ensure an adequate assessment can be undertaken by the consent authority.

Development Contributions

The proposed development will trigger Development Contributions in accordance with Council's Contributions Plan which is current at the time of determination. Council would also encourage the Proponent actively engage with the local community to facilitate positive economic outcomes.

Council looks forward to reviewing the investigations of the EIS process which addresses the issues outlined in this response. Once an application is formally lodged and referred to Council for comment, Council reserves the right to provide additional comments or request additional information.

Should you require any further information, please contact **Maddison Gunter** on **0428 179 409** during business hours or e-mail mgunter@murrayriver.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Gunter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maddison Gunter
Cadet Town Planner