

Our ref: DOC23/31754 Your ref: SSD-5329371

Ms Julia Green Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Department of Planning and Environment Email: julia.green@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Advice provided via the Major Projects Portal

Dear Ms Green

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage – Recommended SEARs – Mallee Wind Farm – SSI-53293710

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our recommended Aboriginal cultural heritage Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the proposed Mallee Wind Farm (SSI-53293710) in the Wentworth Shire Local Government Area.

We have reviewed the Scoping Report prepared by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited (dated November 2022) and the draft SEARs that were provided with the referral. We support the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) as set out in the draft SEARs. The ACHAR needs to be prepared in accordance with Heritage NSW guidelines and include Aboriginal community consultation and archaeological assessment, including archaeological survey and test excavation where required, to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment.

Relevant Heritage NSW guidelines include the:

- 1. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010)
- 2. <u>Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in New South Wales (OEH 2011)</u>
- 3. Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation in NSW (DECCW 2010).

If you have any questions regarding the above advice please contact Nicole Davis, Manager Assessments, at Heritage NSW on (02) 4927 3156 or via email at nicole.davis@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Rose O'Sullivan

Acting Manager Assessments

Heritage NSW

Department of Planning and Environment

(As Delegate under National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974)

Date: 19 January 2023