



MDBA REF: D24/24081
YOUR REF: SSD-76610458 | Devlins Bridge Wind Farm | SEARs

04 November 2024

Jess Watson
NSW Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure
c/- jess.watson@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Jess

Subject: SSD-76610458 | Devlins Bridge Wind Farm | SEARs

We refer to your request for advice on the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for *Devlins Bridge Wind Farm*, particularly for details of any key issues and assessment requirements to be included in the upcoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in support of the Development Application.

In considering this proposal for construction of a 680MW wind farm and associated infrastructure near Narrandera NSW, it is the role of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) to ensure the water quality of the River Murray is maintained or improved, contributing to the protection of the riverine and floodplain environment. We also ensure there is no impact on the flow, use, or control of the River Murray.

Based on the information provided, the MDBA has completed its assessment and concludes the proposed SEARs/EIS requirements appear suitably comprehensive, however with the following points recommended for consideration by the proponent/s:

- The scope report includes the potential for temporary use of sand borrow pits (if deemed feasible). To limit any potential impacts to groundwater, conditions setting the maximum pit floor depth in mAHD, and requiring sand extraction to cease if groundwater is intercepted, should apply.

We welcome any further consultation on this proposal via RiverMurrayHealth@mdba.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Kingham".

Rob Kingham (MDBA)
Director
Water Quality & Salinity

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