

ID-EP-DLP&R/OUT/2024/BS62489528

Kurtis Wathen Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Energy, Resources and Industry Assessments NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure Locked Bag 5022 Parramatta NSW 2124

RE: HILLVIEW WIND FARM- SDD-78329994 – REQUEST FOR INPUT INTO SEARS

Thank you for referring the abovementioned request for input into the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) to the Department of Defence (Defence) for comment.

Defence understands that the proposed Hillview Wind Farm will consist of ancillary infrastructure and up to 55 wind turbine generators (WTGs), with up to 300 megawatt (MW) capacity, and each WTG having a maximum tip height of up to 270 metres (to blade tip). The subject site is approximately 21 km south of Armidale.

As tall structures, wind farms have the potential to pose a number of concerns for Defence, particularly with regard to aircraft safety, military low flying and radar interference. Defence is satisfied that the key issues and consultation requirements outlined in the SEARs will ensure Defence is formally consulted and all concerns considered during the preparation of the Project's Environmental Impact Statement.

Should you wish to discuss the content of this advice further, my point of contact is Anthony Deutschmann at land.planning@defence.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

Timothy Hogan Director Land Planning & Regulation Department of Defence (02) 5109 7933 Timothy.hogan2@defence.gov.au

12 December 2024