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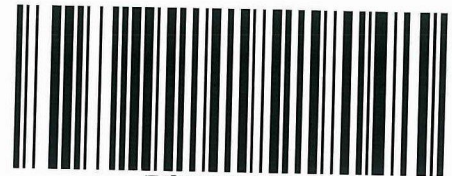
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Department of Planning
Received

25 JUL 2012

Scanning Room

23 July 2012



PCU036061

The Director General
NSW Planning & Infrastructure
Energy Infrastructure Projects
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Attention Toby Philp

Dear Sir

**MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL RESPONSE TO – EXHIBITION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR BODANGORA WIND FARM (MP10 0157)**

I refer to the above Project application on public exhibition for comment from 8 June 2012 until 6 August 2012. Council thanks the Department for the formal notification of this application and for the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Assessment (EA).

Council does not have an issue with the Project as a whole, but does have some issue with the detail of the Traffic and Transport Assessment.

A review of the Transport and Traffic Assessment has revealed that the preferred transport route for over-mass and over-size loads will utilise State highways outside of our region and then the Golden Highway, Wheelers Lane / Mitchell Highway, Goolma Road (at the Wellington end) and Gillinghall Road to access the project site. It is considered that this route will have no impact on our local roads and therefore over-mass and over-size loads are of limited concern.

However, the traffic assessment indicates that other materials, particularly aggregates, ready-mix concrete and gravel have the potential to be sourced from a number of areas including Mudgee. These are likely to be sourced from outlets that are in close proximity to State roads, eg Boral concrete at Putta Bucca and Hanson concrete (formerly Hi-Tech) in Burrundulla Avenue. It is clear that the readymix concrete suppliers are going to have increased activity from these sites and will need to intensify their activity to provide additional quantities of finished product over and above that normally leaving their plants. There will be increased levels of constituent materials will need to be delivered to the batching plants and these constituents will be sourced from surrounding quarries and/or outlets leading to increased heavy loads over Council's local roads.

However, the volumes / quantities of product and the number of truck movements that are likely to be sourced from Mudgee are not specified and therefore it is difficult to assess the potential impact on our local roads. Council is therefore seeking

compensation from the Proponents for the additional heavy traffic that will be on the Council road. The proponents should fund this Council the amount assessed by the Independent Consultant Engineer for the damage to Council and State roads for the additional heavy traffic. It is our understanding that each of the towers will need a concrete base of 1000 cu meters. That will require 200 concrete truck movements for each of the 37 towers – a total of 7,400 concrete trucks. It is also indicated that a large proportion of the material to make the concrete will be imported to the concrete plants. This could be a further at say 50% - another 3,700 heavy truck movements. Thus in total there could be in excess of 11,000 additional heavy traffic movements on our local residential roads and passed our schools.

The other issue that needs to be taken into account is the additional heavy traffic movements passing our schools. For example, any concrete trucks coming from the Industrial Avenue plant will most likely travel Horatio and Douro Streets. The applicant should ensure that these traffic movements are restricted to avoid the times when children are arriving and leaving schools, that is, between the hours of 8.00am-9.30am, and 2.30pm-4.00pm. . Further that the concrete trucks will need to be careful on Goolma Road when the school bus is operating. Although this is a State Road the road is narrow so all care needs to be taken when the school bus is operating

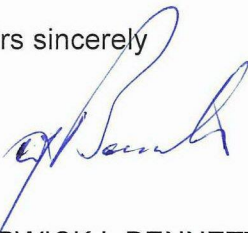
RECOMMENDATION

That the Department of Planning and Infrastructure include as a condition on the determination for the Bodangora Wind Farm (MP10_0157) (if approved) to require the proponents to fund an independent consulting engineer to assess the cost to Council on the additional heavy trucks on local and state roads to transport raw material to the concrete batching plants and the concrete to the proposed site and that the proponents fund Council accordingly.

That the Department of Planning and Infrastructure requires the traffic movements of heavy vehicles associated with the project travelling past schools to avoid the hours of 8.00am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4.00pm on school days. And further the proponents need to liaise with the school bus operator on the Goolma Road to where practicable avoid the times that that school bus is operating.

Should you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact Warwick Bennett on 6378 2850.

Yours sincerely



WARWICK L BENNETT
GENERAL MANAGER