

## **Objection to extension of Lapse Date for Capital 2 Wind Farm**

I am aware that on 16 September 2016 Infigen applied for an extension to the lapse date for the Capital 2 wind farm. The lapse date is 1 November 2016.

Infigen has had five years since the Capital 2 wind farm was approved to commence construction. It has not done so. In the meantime:

- other development in the area has been stifled;
- hosting land owners have not received payment for the construction of the turbines on their land; and
- surrounding landowners continue to live in uncertainty which affects their ability to get on with their lives.

Infigen would have been aware of the state of the electricity market and the technology of turbines when they originally applied for approval to construct a wind farm. To apply for an extension every time new technology looks likely to appear is a never ending process. If this extension is granted, the next request will be for an increase in turbine capacity to take advantage of the new technology.

The application for an extension calls into question the Department's credibility:

- Infigen expect the Department to rubber stamp the request in less than a month and a half;
- The Department's assessment of Infigen's original case for the 'strategic' requirement for this windfarm was deficient as clearly there is no current requirement for the Capital 2 wind farm.

I understand that there are currently more approved wind farm developments than are required to meet Australia's Renewal Energy Target. This is a wind farm that is apparently surplus to requirements and the application for extension should be denied.

The Department should not be party to the 'banking' of unnecessary developments by '\$2 companies' which cost the developer almost nothing but which have severe impacts on the surrounding community.