

OUT16/13383

Phillipa Duncan  
Senior Planner  
Resource Assessments  
Department of Planning & Environment  
23-33 Bridge Street | GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Duncan

**EA exhibition for CWP Renewables Pty Ltd (MP 009 0093) Sapphire Wind Farm  
(Modification 1)**

I refer to your email of 7 March 2016 requesting comments on the Sapphire Wind Farm Modification 1 Environmental Assessment currently on exhibition.

NSW Department of Industry, Division of Resources & Energy (the Division) has reviewed the *Sapphire Wind Farm Modification 1*, dated 22 February 2016 and provides the following comments within its area of responsibility.

Within the Swan Vale Cluster all but one of the proposed turbines are sited outside of mineral titles associated with mining or resource assessment. The exception is turbine number 94, which is proposed to be sited in the north-eastern corner of Mining Lease (ML) 1374.

As the Division has no record of CW Renewables having attempted to consult with Bond Resources Pty Ltd, the holder of ML1374, the Division recommends that the Department of Planning & Environment require the proponent to supply evidence of their attempt/s to consult with the holder of ML1374 and provide copies of any correspondence received from them with regards to the placement of turbines within that tenement. If such consultation has not taken place then DP&E should insist that a reasonable attempt is made by the proponent prior to approval of the project.

Pending resolution of the Division's requirement that CW Renewables consult with Bond Resources Pty Ltd in relation to ML 1374, the Division supports the Sapphire Wind Farm.

The project aligns with Government policy to increase renewable energy generation, jobs and investment in the State. The Renewable Energy Advocate and the Division have been working with CWP Renewables since 2014 to facilitate development of the Sapphire Wind Farm in the New England area.

The Sapphire Wind Farm is expected to inject considerable funds into the local communities of Glen Innes and Inverell and support 250 jobs during the construction stage and a further 10-15 during the ongoing operation of the wind farm.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Steve Cozens,  
Senior Project Officer, Royalty & Advisory Services on 9842 8573.

Yours sincerely

 29/3/16  
Bryan Whitlock  
**A/Manager Royalties & Advisory Services**