



Department of Primary Industries

OUT16/31966

Ms Melanie Prior
Resource Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Melanie.prior@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Prior

DPI response to request for comment on proposed Modification to Silverton Wind Farm (08_0022 MOD 3)

I refer to your email dated 29 July 2016 to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in respect to the above matter. Comment has been sought from relevant divisions of DPI. Views were also sought from NSW Department of Industry - Lands that are now a division of the broader Department and no longer within NSW DPI. Any further referrals to DPI can be sent by email to landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

The Department has reviewed the Environmental Assessment submitted in support of the proposed modification and provides the following comments:

- The modification includes a reduction in the number of turbines from 282 to 171. This results in a reduction in the length of access track requirements by approximately 31km and reduces the creek crossings from 368 to 232. This will result in reduced ground and creek disturbance, and hence reduce potential erosion and sedimentation issues. The turbine footing disturbance however has increased by 17.1 ha due to the requirements for the larger turbines. Additional erosion and sediment controls will therefore be required at the turbine construction locations.
- Section 2.2 indicates the proposal to access construction water from a pipeline between Stephens Creek Reservoir and Umberumberka Reservoir managed by Essential Water. The proponent should provide detail on the water volumes required for the modification proposal and the security of supply from this pipeline. As the footings are significantly larger than the original proposal it is expected the water requirements will increase per footing.
- Section 2.2 also refers to the requirement to obtain approvals and permits from Essential Water to access the pipeline for a water supply. Prior to approval of the project it is recommended the proponent confirm with Essential Water the ability to access the required volume and if there are any concerns in gaining the relevant approvals.
- DPI supports the existing conditions in the project approval for the Mod 2 project related to Soil and Water Quality Impacts, Surface Water Management and a Water Management Plan. It is recommended an additional condition be included to require

watercourse crossings to be constructed in accordance with DPI Water's [Guidelines for Watercourse Crossings on Waterfront Land](#).

- References to "NOW" and "NSW Office of Water" in the existing project approval should be amended to "DPI Water".

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Isaacs', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mitchell Isaacs
Director, Planning Policy & Assessment Advice
29 August 2016