

Contact: Our reference: Date Michael Lewis - 02 6773 7000 - armidale@epa.nsw.gov.au
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1 February 2016

Ms Nicole Brewer Team Leader Resource Assessments Department of Planning & Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Nicole Brewer

Dear Ms Brewer

## Exhibition of Environmental Assessment for White Rock Wind Farm Modification (MP 10\_0160 MOD3)

I refer to the Department of Planning and Environment's (DoPE) letter dated 15 December 2015 inviting the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to make a written submission on the proposed White Rock Wind Farm modification (modification MP 10\_0160 MOD3). The EPA apologises for the delay in responding.

The EPA has reviewed the information provided and understands that the modifications include:

- changes to the three site entry points;
- alternative routes for some access tracks;
- adjustment to the alignment of the 132kV transmission line;
- changing a section of the 33kV overhead transmission line to unground;
- movement of the Operations Maintenance Facility near the northern entry point; and
- inclusion of an additional Operations Maintenance Facility at a southern site entrance and additional locations for construction compounds, laydown areas and batch plants.

Additional noise impacts associated with the modification (not assessed in the 2011 EA) are the proposed batch plant located at the southern site entry adjacent to Kelleys Road. This batch plant may affect the residences identified as L180 and L170; however both residences are associated with the development. The noise impacts associated with the modification are predicted to comply with the existing noise limits in the project approval.

The EPA recommends that DoPE condition the modification approval to ensure the existing Construction Environmental Management Plan for the development including the Construction Soil and Water Quality Management Plan incorporate the proposed modifications.

Please contact Michael Lewis on (02) 6773 7000 or by email to armidale@epa.nsw.gov.au if you wish to discuss this matter.

Yours sincerely

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ROBERT O'HERN Head Regional Operations Unit - Armidale Environment Protection Authority

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