

Our Ref: DOC15/515798 Your Ref: MP10_0160 MOD 3

> Ms Nicole Brewer Team Leader Resource Assessments Department of Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney, NSW, 2001

Dear Ms Brewer

Re: OEH comments on the White Rock Wind Farm - MOD 3

Thank you for your email dated 15 December 2015 regarding the modification application requesting comments from the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). I appreciate the opportunity to provide input.

The OEH has statutory responsibilities relating to biodiversity (including threatened species, populations, ecological communities, or their habitats), Aboriginal and historic heritage, National Parks and Wildlife Service estate, flooding and estuary management.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is no longer part of the OEH and so this response is not based on any consideration of matters relating to noise, air and water quality. If you do require information on these matters or any licensing requirements under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* please contact the EPA separately.

We have reviewed the documents supplied and advise that we have no concerns regarding our statutory responsibilities. However, the following comments are provided for your information:

- Biodiversity the proposed modification reduces the impact on native vegetation by approximately 2.1ha. The OEH supports the reduction in vegetation impacts proposed by the modification.
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage The OEH concurs with the outcome and recommendations of the Aboriginal cultural heritage survey report. We note that further information regarding consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the project has been provided to support the report outcomes. The lack of response to the survey report from any RAPs for the project suggests that none of the RAPs have identified any deficiencies or concerns that would require further consideration. The OEH considers that if the modification is to be approved then it should proceed in accordance with the requirements of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan already approved for the project.

If you have any further questions about this issue, Mr Krister Waern, Senior Operations Officer, Regional Operations, OEH, can be contacted on 6640 2503 or at krister.waern@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

DIMITRÍ YOUNG

Senior Team Leader Planning, North East Region

Regional Operations

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