

Submission Uungula Wind Farm SSD-6687

We provide conditional support for the project.

The overall level of community engagement has been very good and the proponent's community engagement staff have acted in a very professional manner. They have followed up issues and kept residents well informed.

Issue 1

As the Main EIS notes there is ongoing consultation with neighbouring residents with an aim of establishing voluntary Neighbour Agreements. The establishment of these Agreements includes ongoing negotiations that mitigate the impact of the project.

It is noted in the Main EIS that the vast majority of neighbour agreements remain under negotiation and whilst potentially agreed in principle at a framework level the actual formal agreement documents are complex and the involved neighbours should be afforded necessary time to complete legal due diligence, conclude negotiations and formalise any agreements currently under negotiation. Given the time required to complete this process, these agreements are unlikely to be formally agreed until after the project assessment and approval process is concluded.

Whilst it is unlikely that the proponent would abandon negotiations in the event the project was approved some assurance should be provided to affected neighbours who are currently negotiating agreements that the proponent should continue to negotiate in good faith to conclude these agreements.

It is requested that the Planning Department acknowledge that a number of these negotiations are ongoing and apply appropriate conditions to ensure the proponent does not abandon negotiations or materially depart from any in principle agreements that are in place.

Issue 2

Can the planning Department assure neighbours that their rights under the council LEP will not be amended, restricted or impacted in any way as a result of the wind farm being approved and constructed.

Specifically, if a neighbouring landholder has an existing building entitlement for a residence that there would be no limitations in being granted Development Approval for a residence as a result of the wind farm being constructed and operated.