



Department of Primary Industries

OUT21/777

Mr Anthony Ko
Environmental Assessment Officer
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Major Project Portal

Dear Anthony

Review of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Of Hills of Gold Wind Farm (SSD-9679)

I refer to your request for advice on 26 November 2020 to the Department of Primary Industries regarding a review of the EIS for the above mentioned Project.

The EIS discusses the soils and land capability of the Project's footprint and the commitment to a Soil and Water Management Plan (SWMP) and Environmental Management Strategy (EMS). The SWMP and the EMS will provide further detail on the mitigation, rehabilitation and decommissioning of the project back to previous or better land capability for agricultural use.

However, the current decommissioning commitment in the EIS states *below ground infrastructure, including the wind turbines foundations and hardstands, will be left insitu*. DPI advises that all infrastructure to a depth less than 500mm on arable land, including improved pasture lands, be removed during decommissioning. This is required to not impede possible future agricultural practices post decommissioning.

Please contact Helen Squires if you have further queries 0437 645 719.

Yours sincerely

Tamara Prentice
Manager, Agriculture Land Use Planning
22 January 2021