

Mr Ed Mounsey Head of Development CWP Renewables Pty Ltd PO Box 1709 Newcastle NSW 2300 Via email: <u>Ed.Mounsey@cwprenewables.com</u>

3 September 2021

Dear Mr Mounsey,

Boco Rock Wind Farm Modification 1 (MP09_0103-Mod-1) Biodiversity Assessment

I refer to your response to the Department's request for information dated 7July 2021 regarding the potential impacts of the proposed modification on the biodiversity values listed in the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and *Biodiversity Conservation (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 2017* (BC Regulation).

After careful consideration the Department is requesting that you provide additional information on the matters outlined below:

- Flight path integrity (BC Regulation clause 1.4(e)):
 - an assessment of whether the changes to turbine dimensions will increase or decrease impacts to high-flying aerial threatened species (such as White-Throated Needletail, Grey-headed Flying Fox, Large Bent-winged Bat and threatened raptors):
 - based on strike estimates of all threatened species using data collected from the implementation of the Bird and Bat Monitoring Program from Stage 1;
 - an understanding of ecology and behaviour of each impacted species (including flight paths and flight heights); and
 - predicting the:
 - rate and timing of strikes per turbine per year for each species;
 - consequences of impacts for the persistence of populations; and
 - cumulative impacts of the proposed development alongside existing wind farms.
 - a map of significant landscape and habitat features within the disturbance zone of wind turbines (e.g. hollow bearing trees and raptor nests).

• Clearing and Offsets

- provide a table outlining the amount of clearing undertaken for Stage 1 (approved and actual for each vegetation community) and the proposed clearing for Yandra cluster (approved and proposed for Modification 1);
- confirmation that the clearing calculations for modification 1 have included all required roads and cabling required to construct the Yandra cluster.

In order for the Department to work towards determination of the modification application please provide a timeframe for when this information will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact Iwan Davies, who can be contacted on 9274 6296 or at iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Brewer Director, Energy Assessments