

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2012

Reference: 20121023-PYWF01

Mr Ado Zanella  
Project Manager, Project Delivery Unit  
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure (DP&I)  
23-33 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

### **Part 3A (Transitional Project) Application for Paling Yards Wind Farm**

Dear Ado,

Union Fenosa Wind Australia Pty Ltd (UFWA) is the proponent for the proposed Paling Yards wind farm, a transitional Part 3A project.

The purpose of this letter is to request the Director-General's agreement to extending the date for the submission of the environmental assessment report for the proposed Paling Yards wind farm until 31st January 2013.

By way of background to this request:

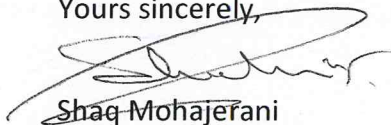
- On 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012, UFWA received a letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> August 2012 from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI) regarding the new date for lodging environmental assessment reports for transitional Part 3A projects to 30th November 2012 unless otherwise agreed by the Director-General.
- UFWA previously advised Mr Matthew Daniel of DoPI in an email on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012 that we hope to submit the draft Paling Yards environmental assessment documentation for adequacy by 30 November 2012. Unfortunately, for the reasons set out below, it has become apparent that this date is no longer achievable.
- UFWA is currently well advanced in the preparation of the Paling Yards environmental assessment documents. Approximately 85% of the work on the proposed Paling Yards environmental assessment documents has been completed to date. We have already finalised the following environmental impact assessments: Traffic, Telecommunication, Shadow Flicker, Geotechnical, Hydrology, Aviation, and Decommissioning. However, we are currently awaiting finalisation of the Noise, Socio-Economic and Heritage, Ecology and the Landscape and Visual reports. Once these reports have been finalised the main body of the environmental assessment report can be finalised and the full environmental assessment report duly submitted to DoPI for adequacy review. The further work required will take longer than 30 November 2012 to complete.

- As DoPI is no doubt aware, the 30th November 2012 date has placed significant pressure on the many environmental consultants who are currently working on environmental assessments for a number of transitional Part 3A projects. This is the case for a number of the consultants engaged on the Paling Yards wind farm, who have informed UFWA that they are unlikely to be able to meet the 30th November 2012 date for this reason.
- In addition, UFWA is also the proponent of the proposed Crookwell 3 wind farm which is also a transitional Part 3A project. UFWA has engaged largely the same consultant team for the proposed Crookwell 3 wind farm as for the proposed Paling Yards Wind Farm. As you would be aware, in early October 2012 the environmental assessment report achieved adequacy for the proposed Crookwell 3 wind farm and we understand that this report will be placed on public exhibition period in the next couple of weeks. The finalisation of the Crookwell 3 wind farm environmental assessment report required a significant investment of time both by UFWA and by its consultant team, and this has somewhat delayed the finalisation of the Paling Yards environmental assessment documents.

UFWA appreciates the importance of finalising the Paling Yards environmental assessment documentation and will endeavour to finalise and submit the report as soon as practicable. However, despite the significant work already put in on the draft environmental assessment, become apparent that 30th November 2012 is no longer achievable. Accordingly, we request that the Director-General please extend the final date for submitting the Paling Yards environmental assessment for adequacy review by two months, until 31st January 2013.

Should you require further information in relation to this application, please don't hesitate to contact me on (02) 8297 8700 or 0400 403 282.

Yours sincerely,



Shaq Mohajerani

Projects Development Manager