

Subject: Clarification re. Hills of Gold Wind Farm advice
Date: Thursday 27 June 2024 at 4:47:59 PM Australian Eastern Standard Time
From: Clay Preshaw
To: Samantha McLean
CC: Steve Barry
Attachments: image001.png

Dear Sam,

The Department would like to clarify that its comment about unlawful clearing in its advice dated 24 June 2024 (page 10) was only meant to highlight that claims of unlawful clearing had been an issue that caused concern in the community throughout the assessment process. It was not the Department's intention to imply that the Applicant was involved in any unlawful clearing.

As referenced in the Department's initial recommendation (December 2023), the Department was aware that land clearing has occurred on the project site prior to any approval of vegetation clearing under this development application. The Department understands that some of this clearing occurred with approval under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, and some areas had been cleared without prior approval and a Biodiversity Conservation Order has been issued for these areas.

I trust that this point of clarification is of assistance.

Regards

Clay Preshaw
Executive Director | Energy, Resources and Industry

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The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically