



Prof. Mary O'Kane
Chair
Planning Assessment Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000



Dear Prof. O'Kane

Jupiter Wind Farm (SSD 6277)

The Department has completed its assessment of the merits of the application for the Jupiter Wind Farm (SSD 6277).

In accordance with the Minister's delegation dated 14 September 2011, the application is referred to the Planning Assessment Commission for determination, as there were more than 25 objections and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council and Goulburn Mulwaree Council object to the proposal.

During the exhibition of the environmental impact statement (EIS), the Department received a total of 452 submissions, including 12 from government agencies, 9 from special interest groups and 431 from the general public. Submissions included 402 objections, primarily from residents living within 10 km of the project site.

During the assessment process, the Department visited the site and surrounds on several occasions, attended the project's Community Consultative Committee, held a Community Information Session, and consulted with local residents, community groups, Councils, key government agencies and JWF. The Department also visited 32 of properties around the site to gain an appreciation of the potential impacts of the project, particularly in regard to visual impacts.

In assessing the merits of the project, the Department has considered the environmental, social and economic impacts of the project, submissions on the EIS, relevant environmental planning instruments, the suitability of the site for the project, and the public interest, in accordance with the requirements of the EP&A Act.

Based on this assessment, the Department considers that the site is not suitable for a large-scale wind farm, and that the project is not in the public interest, and **should not be approved**.

I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report and other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

For further information or to arrange a briefing, please contact Mr Mike Young, Director Resource and Energy Assessments, on (02) 8217 2091.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray
Deputy Secretary
Planning Services

23/02/2018