

1

Flyers Creek Wind Farm Pty Ltd

Mod 4 IPC Public Meeting

Good morning.

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the traditional custodians of this land. I would also like to pay respect to the elders past and present of the Wiradjuri nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present.

My name is Megan Richardson and I'm the Development Manager for the Flyers Creek Wind Farm. I work at Infigen Energy and I'm speaking on behalf of the Proponent, Flyers Creek Wind Farm Pty Ltd.

Infigen Energy is a developer, owner and operator of clean energy in Australia and owns 790 Gigawatts of installed generation capacity operating across Australia. We recently constructed the Bodangora Wind Farm located about 100 kilometres north of here near Wellington.

I would like to provide a brief summary of Flyers Creek Wind Farm and the planning Modification as well as mentioning some of the many benefits that the project will deliver to the local community and Australia more broadly.

We have been involved in the Flyers Creek Wind Farm project for over ten years, since two of the host landowners approached Infigen with the opportunity to develop the project site.

Project Approval was granted in 2014 for a 42 turbine wind farm and the project has since undergone 3 modifications and the existing project approval is for a 38 turbine wind farm.

Planning modification 4 was lodged in July 2018 and seeks to:

1. increase the wind turbine envelope so as to accommodate the newer, more efficient turbine models now available; and
2. Include a 132kV transmission line and switching station so as to enable the Project to connect to the electrical grid.

The modification also includes some clarifications to the project components.

For Modification 4, updated environmental studies and assessments were carried out by relevant experts including visual, shadow flicker, bird and bat, noise, traffic and transport, telecommunications, aviation and biodiversity. The assessments confirm that the changes contemplated as part of Modification 4 can be constructed and operated with minimal increase to the impacts identified for the approved project.

Consultation with the local community, project landowners and relevant stakeholders have been carried out throughout the development of the project. Engagement with these stakeholders occurred as part of the planning modification 4 assessment and comments and information from these stakeholders were incorporated into the application.

There is significant community and local business support for the project and you will hear from some representatives of these groups this morning.

The benefits of Flyers Creek Wind Farm to the local community and Australia wide are many.

The project will generate an estimated 430 Gigawatt hours of renewable energy every year, sufficient to power 58,000 NSW homes.

Flyers Creek Wind Farm will help reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions, consumption of finite fossil fuels and bring us closer to meeting our national target of providing 33,000 GWh from renewable sources by 2020.

The project will provide full time employment for a peak of 140 people during construction and up to 6 to 10 ongoing regional jobs during its operational life. You will be hearing from our turbine manufacturer and construction contractor this morning as well as some members of the Bodangora Wind Farm team who will provide some information of their experiences as construction contractors and ongoing operations on an Infigen Energy project, the Bodangora Wind Farm.

The project will result in approximately \$1 million per annum of direct economic benefits to the local community through payments to host landholders, permanent wind farm staff and through community fund contributions under the Voluntary Planning Agreement with Blayney Shire Council.

Infigen support the Department of Planning and Environment's recommendation for approval of Modification 4.

Thank you for listening.