



Professor Mary O'Kane AC
Chair
Independent Planning Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Professor O'Kane

White Rock Wind Farm – Modification 6 (10_0160 MOD 6)

The Department has received an application from White Rock Wind Farm Pty Ltd to modify the project approval for the White Rock Wind Farm under Section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The project is located approximately 20 kilometres (km) west of Glen Innes, within the Glen Innes Severn and Inverell local government areas.

The proposed modification only relates to Stage 2 of the approved White Rock Wind Farm, as the Stage 1 turbines are already constructed and operating.

Key aspects of the proposed modification (Modification 6) include:

- an increase to the approved turbine height from 150 to 200 metres;
- changes to the project area and relocation of up to 29 turbines;
- a reduction in the number of turbines from 49 to 48; and
- an increase in native vegetation clearing.

The Department publicly exhibited the modification application and accompanying Environmental Assessment from 13 February 2018 until Tuesday 6 March 2018 and received a total of 47 public submissions (including 1 special interest group submission), of which 46 were objections to the modification. However only 6 objections were received from landowners living within 50 km of the site.

Advice was also provided from 12 NSW government agencies, including Glen Innes Severn Council and Inverell Shire Council, who did not object to the application. During the assessment process, the Department consulted with local residents, Councils and the relevant government agencies.

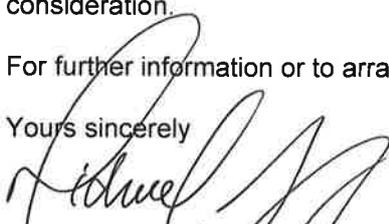
The Department also engaged an independent visual expert and visited 8 non-associated residences around the site to gain a better appreciation of the potential impacts associated with the modification.

The Independent Planning Commission is the approval authority for the modification application under delegation, because more than 25 public submissions by way of objection were received during the exhibition of the application.

Based on its assessment, the Department considers that the modification request is approvable, subject to the recommended revisions to the project approval conditions. I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report, recommended revised conditions and other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

For further information or to arrange a briefing, please contact me on 02 8217 2091.

Yours sincerely


Mike Young
Executive Director
Energy and Resources

23.8.19.