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Organisation:				
Location:	New South Wales 2223			
Submitter Type:	an individual making a submission on my own behalf	Key issues:		
Attachment:				

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### Submission to the Independent Planning Commission Regarding Spicers Creek Wind Farm Project

\*\*Introduction:\*\*

I am writing to express my support for the Spicers Creek Wind Farm project. My submission will address the numerous benefits of the proposed wind farm, emphasizing its critical importance for environmental sustainability and the future of our community. This submission responds to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's (DPHI) Assessment Report and recommended conditions of consent and aims to provide relevant and specific information that underscores the necessity of this project.

- \*\*1. Environmental Benefits:\*\*
- a. Renewable Energy Generation:

The Spicers Creek Wind Farm will contribute significantly to renewable energy generation. Wind power is a clean, inexhaustible resource that reduces our reliance on fossil fuels, thereby decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change. According to the DPHIâ $\in$ <sup>TMS</sup> Assessment Report, the wind farm is expected to produce approximately megawatt-hours of electricity annually, which is equivalent to powering thousands of homes per year.

## b. Reduction in Carbon Footprint:

The implementation of the Spicers Creek Wind Farm will lead to a substantial reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. The transition from coal and gas-fired power plants to wind energy will lower the carbon footprint, aligning with both state and national goals for emission reductions. The DPHI's Assessment Report highlights that the wind farm will offset a significant amount of CO2 annually, making a substantial contribution to our climate action targets.

\*\*2. Economic Benefits:\*\*

#### a. Job Creation:

The construction and operation of the Spicers Creek Wind Farm will create numerous jobs, both temporary and permanent. This includes roles in construction, maintenance, and management, providing much-needed employment opportunities in the region. The economic stimulus from job creation will also support local businesses and services.

b. Investment in Local Infrastructure:



The wind farm project will lead to improvements in local infrastructure, including roads and power grids. This investment will enhance the overall quality of infrastructure in the area, benefiting the local community and supporting future development projects.

\*\*3. Community and Social Benefits: \*\*

## a. Community Funding and Support:

The Spicers Creek Wind Farm project includes provisions for community funding, which will support local initiatives and development programs. These funds can be used for educational, health, and recreational projects that will enhance the quality of life for residents.

### b. Energy Security:

By diversifying our energy sources and increasing the share of renewable energy in our power mix, the wind farm will enhance energy security. This reduces the risk of power shortages and stabilizes energy prices, benefiting both households and businesses.

\*\*4. Environmental Impact Mitigation:\*\*

## a. Wildlife Protection Measures:

The project includes comprehensive measures to mitigate potential impacts on local wildlife. This includes careful site selection, ongoing monitoring, and adaptive management strategies to protect bird and bat populations. The DPHI'S Assessment Report indicates that these measures are in line with best practices and will effectively minimize any adverse effects on biodiversity.

### b. Land Use and Visual Impact:

The Spicers Creek Wind Farm has been designed to minimize land use conflicts and visual impacts. The selected site is predominantly rural, with careful consideration given to the placement of turbines to reduce visibility from key vantage points. Landscaping and other mitigation measures will further ensure that the visual impact is acceptable.

\*\*5. Alignment with Government Policies: \*\*

# a. Renewable Energy Targets:

The Spicers Creek Wind Farm aligns with state and national renewable energy targets. It supports the NSW Government  $\hat{a} \in \mathbb{T}$  objective of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 and contributes to the broader goal of increasing the share of renewables in our energy mix.

## b. Sustainable Development Goals:

The project supports several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), and Climate Action (SDG 13). By advancing these goals, the Spicers Creek Wind Farm demonstrates a commitment to sustainable development.

#### \*\*Conclusion:\*\*

In conclusion, the Spicers Creek Wind Farm project offers numerous environmental, economic, and social benefits. It represents a critical step towards a sustainable future, contributing to renewable energy generation, reducing carbon emissions, creating jobs, and supporting local communities. I strongly urge the Independent Planning Commission to approve the development application, considering the comprehensive assessment and positive outcomes outlined in the DPHI's Assessment Report.

Thank you for considering my submission. I am confident that the Spicers Creek Wind Farm will play a vital role in our transition to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable energy future.



Sincerely,

