

Meeting title	Liverpool Range Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC)		
Attendees			
Michael Silver OAM (Independent Chair)	Leeanne Ryan (Warrumbungle Shire Council)		
Dr Julia Imrie (Community Member)	Cr Ron Campbell (Upper Hunter Shire Council)		
Ant Martin (Involved Landowner)	Martine Holberton, Community and Stakeholder Advisor, Tilt Renewables		
Linda Gant (Community Member)	Matt Stafford, Senior Environment and Development Planner, Tilt Renewables		
Greg Piper (Community Member) [by video link]			
Observers			
Cr Kathy Rindfleish (Coolah)	Kas Wren (Coolah District Development Group)		
Grant Gjessing (Mudgee)	Rosemary Hadaway (Mudgee District Environment Group)		
Apologies			
Graeme Booker (Community Member)	Matthew Pringle (Upper Hunter Shire Council)		
Location	Coolah Meeting Room, Warrumbungle Shire Council, Coolah	Date & start time	22 March 2022 at 10.35 am

Topic	Discussion
1. Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair welcomed all to the meeting in particular the observers and thanked them for their interest in the CCC.
2. Acknowledgement of Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting is being held and their continuing connection to land, water, and culture, paying respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.
3. Declarations of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Silver – pecuniary interest – expenses of Independent Chair borne by Proponent. Ant Martin – pecuniary interest – involved landowner.
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the minutes of the CCC meeting held on 7 December 2021 had been approved on 19 January 2022.
5. Business Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
6. Actions	<p>6.1 That Tilt arrange for the concrete and aggregates contractor to address a future meeting of the CCC, prior to the commencement of construction work, regarding location and operation of the proposed quarries. Response: Deferred pending confirmation of construction program. DEFERRED</p> <p>6.2 That the Chair write to the Executive Director - Planning & Communities at the Energy Corporation of NSW regarding the need for a collaborative and supportive approach from government to road access issues (rather than an individual project approach) associated with the development of the wind farm industry in the Coolah</p>

area and the broader Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ).

Chair's Response: *Correspondence forwarded to Mike Young, Executive Director - Planning & Communities at the Energy Corporation of NSW.*

The meeting noted that Mr Mike Young of the Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) would make a presentation to the meeting and address the concerns raised in the correspondence.

Leeanne Ryan advised that Warrumbungle Shire Council has had approaches regarding ten potential State Significant Development energy projects of recent months, some based in Warrumbungle Shire and others shared with other local government authorities, placing a significant burden on Council's resources.

Cr Ron Campbell commented on the connection of the turbines to the grid and the transmission line alignment. Matt Stafford advised that the approved 2018 transmission line alignment to TransGrid's existing line at Ulan is being adopted at present.

COMPLETED

6.3 That the Proponent provide clarification on the extent / width of the transmission line corridor.

Proponent's Response: *The original EIS specified a standard 60 m wide corridor for the transmission line, in accordance with TransGrid's easement guidelines. Biodiversity impacts associated with the transmission line corridor were assessed as part of the original EIS in accordance with the NSW Framework for Biodiversity Assessment that was in place at the time. The proposed modification also includes an updated assessment in accordance with the current NSW Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020 (BAM). All potential impacts along the entire transmission line corridor and associated offset requirements have now been assessed and calculated - these will appear in the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) that will accompany the Modification Application that will be lodged with DPIE and made available to the public through the formal notification process.*

Dr Julia Imrie enquired as to whether offsets have been identified and secured? Mr Stafford advised that offsets are in the process of being finalised and will be fully secured. He also indicated a preference for land-based offsets, but noted that the large size of the project would most likely also involve payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund (BCF).

COMPLETED

6.4 That the Proponent confirm whether there is an agreement with the Mudgee LALC regarding access to create a transmission easement in the Hands on Rock area and whether this is a legal written agreement.

Proponent's Response: *Tilt Renewables is aware that Mudgee LALC holds title over Lot 751 DP 1270886 within which Hands on Rock is located. Our project land agreements are commercial in confidence so we are unable to share any specific details, however Tilt can advise that our preferred transmission line route will not pass-through Lot 751. We are proposing to take an alternate route through Lot 7300 DP 1136299 which is also part of the Development Consent.*

Dr Julia Imrie noted the Proponent's intention to avoid the Hands on Rock, by moving

	<p>the transmission alignment towards the road reserve. However, she urged consideration of solution via development of the REZ. Mr Stafford indicated that there is still considerable work to be done in finalising the REZ transmission line alignment, and that connection into the REZ transmission line would be considered where delivery timeframes align. COMPLETED</p> <p>6.5 That the Chair contact the DPE regarding Mr Piper’s concerns in respect of the VPA process.</p> <p>It was noted that Ms Nicole Brewer of the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) would present to the meeting on the assessment and determination process. COMPLETED</p> <p>6.6 That the Proponent and the Chair seek to promote the current CCC community representative vacancies before the next meeting. Both will also encourage more regular attendance from Upper Hunter and Warrumbungle Shire Council representatives.</p> <p>The Chair advised that public nominations had been invited and one formal nomination received. He also advised that Community members had been seeking additional nominations, and the Proponent had also been active in seeking persons interested in joining the CCC. Mr Silver noted the presence of representatives of both Warrumbungle Shire Council and Upper Hunter Shire Council at the meeting. COMPLETED</p> <p>Leanne Ryan highlighted issues associated with commenting on CCC matters at Council meetings. The Chair noted that in several other CCCs, Councils were represented by a Councillor and a technical representative, often a staff member. Discussion proceeded on the extent and merits of Council representation on the CCC. The Chair noted it was a matter for Councils whether they are represented. In consideration of the issues highlighted by Warrumbungle Shire Council, the Chair indicated he would raise the level and nature of Council representation on the CCC with the DPE. ACTION</p>
<p>7. Correspondence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>8. Presentation from NSW Department of Planning and Environment</p>	<p>Presentation from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment on the Exhibition, Assessment and Determination Processes – Nicole Brewer, Director Energy Assessments, Planning & Assessments (via video link).</p> <p>Ms Brewer spoke to a Power Point presentation which is attached to the minutes.</p> <p>Ms Brewer highlighted that assessment of the modification proposal analyses changes to the original development and does not re-evaluate the original approval. During the exhibition period the community is invited to make submissions, following which the DPE will assess the changes.</p> <p>Ms Brewer stepped the committee through the State Significant Development Guidelines highlighting how engagement is undertaken, cumulative assessment considered, and social impact assessed. She then outlined the role of the Wind Farm Framework in providing guidance for the community industry and regulators and a planning framework for the assessment of impacts of proposals and modifications.</p>

She noted the importance of the Wind Energy Guideline, the Visual Assessment Bulletin, and the Noise Assessment Bulletin in the assessment process.

Ms Brewer outlined the State Significant assessment process for modification applications. She indicated that community submissions are important and should highlight issues of concern. The assessment of the modification will involve a whole of government approach and including input from local government. Subsequently the applicant will provide a response to submissions and at this point DPE may request additional information. Also, the applicant may amend the application taking account of issues raised in the submissions. She stressed the importance of feedback from the community – DPE want to hear what concerns the community may have. Community submissions do not need to analyse the technical detail of the proposal – the DPE will assess the technical detail.

The Chair sought clarification on assessment of visual impact and noise issues. Mr Silver also requested an outline of how the community engages with the process.

Ms Brewer provided an overview of visual and noise assessment criteria. She referenced the noise standards and landscape impact criteria in the Wind Farm Guideline. She highlighted that the criteria set an acceptable impact from the NSW Government's perspective.

Wind Energy Guideline - <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Guidelines/wind-energy-guideline-for-state-significant-wind-energy-development-2016-12.pdf>

Wind Energy: Visual Assessment Bulletin - <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Bulletins-and-Community-Updates/wind-energy-visual-assessment-bulletin-2016-12.pdf>

Wind Energy: Noise Assessment Bulletin - <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Bulletins-and-Community-Updates/wind-energy-noise-assessment-bulletin-2016-12.pdf>

Ms Brewer noted that the Regulation provided for a minimum of 14 days exhibition for Modifications Application. She indicated that this Modification may be exhibited for up to 28 days.

Dr Imrie requested clarification as to who the noise experts are within Government. Ms Brewer responded that technical advice on noise assessment is provided by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). Dr Imrie enquired whether this assessment can be peer reviewed. Ms Brewer responded that the EPA is considered a technical expert.

Cr Campbell noted that this project was approved in 2018 and is now undergoing a modification – he questioned when the project is going to start. Matt Stafford responded that the Modification is the first major component of progressing the project to construction. This follows a review of the Epuron proposal and subsequent refinement of the project. The project is moving closer to construction but needs to go through the approval process. Ms Brewer added that it is not unusual for a Proponent to amend the original approved project, noting the current approval permits turbines no higher than 165 metres. Current technology is seeing higher blade tip heights and greater turbine capacities. She advised the applicant needs to prove the modified proposal is acceptable.

Linda Gant noted the reduction in the number of turbines has implications for the existing Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA), in that it would result in a reduction in the level of funds payable by the developer. She expressed concern at the original process whereby the VPA was negotiated between the Councils and the original developer. She expressed concern at how the VPA will be managed under the Modification. Ms Brewer noted it is a voluntary contribution from the developer, negotiated between the developer and the Councils often managed by a Committee established under Section 355 of the *Local Government Act 1990*. Ms Gant sought clarification as to whether the community can be involved in the process and was advised that this would be a matter for the Council's and the developer.

Cr Campbell suggested that given the reduction in turbines the per turbine contribution needed to be increased to achieve the same gross contribution as provided under the original proposal. Ant Martin agreed with these sentiments.

Martine Holberton indicated the Proponent was aware of the community concerns, indicating the issue was under consideration and was likely to be addressed in the Proponent's Response to Submissions at the conclusion of the exhibition of the Modification.

Leanne Ryan advised that the current VPA provides an opportunity for the Councils to renegotiate certain aspects of the VPA.

The Chair noted Greg Piper's interest in the VPA process. However due to technical audio issues on the video link he was unable to voice his concerns or pose questions on the matter.

Chair's note: I have had post meeting discussions with Mr Piper regarding his concerns and have agreed to further pursue these issues and seek clarification from DPE.

With consent of the Chair, Rosemary Hadaway expressed concern at the statutory public exhibition process and the level of personal resources that are involved from the community to respond in submissions adequately and responsibly to major development proposals. She suggested that a submission expressing "how we feel" about a project seems a little 'glib' as to adequately respond you need to understand the detail. She felt there was a lack of recognition of community contribution to the process. Ms Brewer responded that the government has the experts in its agencies to analyse and assess modelling and technical information, consequently it is seeking the community's attitude and concerns about a project. Ms Hadaway noted that the community members of the CCC are volunteers and are often older members of the community devoting, without payment, their time to important community issues.

Ms Holberton advised that the Proponent will endeavour to broadly inform the community of the Modification Application before and during the public exhibition phase by way of the distribution of a Project newsletter/ update, fact sheets, ads in local papers, information at local post offices and a possible window display/ exhibition of materials in Coolah, that will outline in detail all aspects of the Modified Project.

9. Presentation from the Energy Corporation of NSW

Presentation from the Energy Corporation of NSW on the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone – Mike Young, Executive Director, Planning & Communities – via video link. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

Mike Young provided an overview of the role of EnergyCo. He highlighted that currently five coal fired power stations provide 75% of NSW energy needs. With several to close in the next few years there is a need to provide alternative sources of electricity to 'keep the lights on'.

Mr Young highlighted the establishment of Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) to identify areas for development of green energy projects for the purposes of connecting to the State grid. He noted that the State's first 5 REZs are in the Central-West Orana, New England, South-West, Hunter-Central Coast, and Illawarra regions. He advised Central-West Orana and New England REZs have been declared with the others to follow later in 2022.

The REZs will play a vital role in delivering affordable energy generation to help replace the State's existing power stations as they close over the coming decades.

Mr Young advised EnergyCo will co-ordinate the roll out of the REZs. This will include facilitation of transmission lines and managing connection of generators to the grid. This will involve access fees for generators with the funds being utilised to support communities hosting generators through a Community Benefit Sharing program managed by EnergyCo.

Mr Young highlighted the extent of the Orana REZ noting that it is a balance between land use and locality in determining where developments are within a REZ. He advised that a Community Benefit Fund would be established which would be administered centrally through EnergyCo but with involvement of local Councils and the community.

Mr Young outlined the Transmission Study Corridor noting the location of the original proposed corridor. He indicated that EnergyCo was revising the corridor location taking account of agricultural land and maximising opportunities to use mining land and co-locate with the existing transmission line from Wollar to Wellington. It is intended with the design of the transmission line to minimise impact yet build in a timely and effective way to ensure electricity supply is maintained.

Mr Young advised that expressions of interest have been invited from key generation proponents in the locality regarding connection to the transmission line. The connection process will be undertaken as an auction later in the year, with the intention that generators will pay for the opportunity to distribute their energy through the grid.

In terms of where the proposed amended corridor is at, Mr Young advised that the preferred corridor location has been identified and consultations are currently being undertaken with landholders. Work is progressing to narrow and refine the proposed corridor to a 200-500 metre width for preparation of a planning application. The determining authority for the transmission corridor will be the Minister for Planning. In terms of timelines, Mr Young indicated that the planning application would be lodged in early 2023 with a determination anticipated towards the end of 2023. The construction of the transmission line is proposed to occur in 2024/25, with energisation during 2026. Mr Young added that with Eraring Power Station closing in 2025 it was essential that the new transmission line is in place.

Ant Martin questioned what the three hub denotations on the map represented. Mr Young advised that were energy hubs (or substations), that is provision of sufficient

hubs to allow connection to the transmission line.

The Chair enquired how does the current modification proposal for LRWF relate to the proposed realigned transmission corridor given any modified project approval will be based on the existing transmission line proposal. Mr Young responded that the proposed corridor will be further west but does not preclude connection to the transmission line.

Dr Imrie questioned whether there will be an upgrade to the existing 330 kV line. Mr Young advised that with the number of new projects identified, demand will exceed the existing transmission capability. Consequently, existing towers will require upgrading to 500 kV. There is also potential for another set of towers which would result in three sets of towers in the transmission easement.

Kathy Rindfleish noted that feedback on the revised study corridor for new transmission infrastructure closes on 31 March 2022. She enquired how ongoing consultation will occur. Mr Young advised there will be direct consultation with landowners in the region indicating Energy Co is happy to receive community feedback.

Cr Campbell sought clarification on how the LRWF will connect to the transmission line, noting it is 330 kV line but may require 500 kV. Who will pay for any upgrade above 330kV? Mr Young indicated that the LRWF connection will probably be 330 kV but if greater capacity is required this would require further assessment. In terms of the Uarbry Energy Hub, no decision has been made as to whether this will have a 330 kV or 500 kV capacity.

Dr Imrie asked whether the existing 500 kV line to Wollar will require upgrade. Mr Young advised this is not anticipated. The line is part of the Sydney ring line – it expected that there will be a need to build a new line to connect to the Bayswater Power Station to maintain the ring.

The Chair referred to correspondence forwarded to EnergyCo (ref: Action 6.2) regarding the need for a collaborative and supportive approach from government to road access issues and other broader community impact matters rather than an individual project approach associated with the development of the wind farm industry in the Coolah area and the broader Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone. The Chair also sought clarification as to how these issues will be addressed. Mr Young acknowledged that the planning process deals with proposals on a project-by-project basis whereas EnergyCo is taking more of a co-ordination role. Currently EnergyCo has engaged GHD to analyse impacts on infrastructure in the Hunter because of proposed renewable energy developments. He added that other community and social impact issues such as accommodation capacity, telecommunications and community services will be considered as part of the study. He anticipated the study would be completed by the end of 2022.

The Chair suggested that a higher and more visible communication strategy associated with the establishment of REZs is required to ensure rural communities are aware of the implications (positive and negative) of these zones. Mr Young acknowledged that there is a need to closely engage with rural communities.

Martine Holberton suggested that GHD in its assessment of impacts of renewable energy projects in the REZ, should be talking to the proponents of projects. Mr Young

	<p>advised he would have GHD share assessments with Tilt Renewables. ACTION</p> <p>Cr Campbell enquired from where most of the componentry for renewable projects will be delivered. Mr Young advised that most componentry would come via the Port of Newcastle.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Mr Young for his comprehensive presentation and response to questions.</p> <p><i>The meeting was adjourned at 12.35 pm.</i></p>
<p>10. Proponent’s Report</p>	<p><i>The meeting reconvened at 12.45 pm.</i></p> <p><i>Martine Holberton and Matt Stafford presented the Proponent’s Report (copy attached to minutes).</i></p> <p>8.1 Summary of Proposed Modification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Stafford stepped the Committee through the Modification. • Mr Stafford advised that the Modification had been formally lodged with DPE on 15 March 2022. He expected the Department to advise shortly when the Modification will be publicly exhibited. He anticipated this exhibition will be for a period of 28 days. • Mr Stafford advised that the proposed 223 turbines had been further reduced in the modification to 220 turbines. He indicated that an area in the northwest of the site has been removed resulting in the loss of turbines. • Mr Stafford advised that 36 non-associated residences will now be located closer to a turbine when compared to the approved project. However, the distance to the nearest non-associated residence has increased. He added that agreements have been established with owners of associated residences. • In terms of the internal transmission line, Mr Stafford advised that nothing has changed although assessment of optional alignment is being considered due mostly to complex terrain issues. • Ant Martin sought clarification on the type of infrastructure to be used for the transmission line viz. towers or poles? Mr Stafford advised the original consent was neutral on the type of infrastructure due to the complex nature of the topography. Mr Stafford indicated that some of the flatter sections will allow for use of poles. • Cr Campbell request clarification on the location of the REZ transmission line corridor. Mr Stafford indicated this had not been previously determined how connection to the Uarbry Hub (substation) will occur – this needs to be advised by EnergyCo in consultation with the Proponent. Cr Campbell asked how this will occur. Mr Stafford advised this has not been determined. • Mr Stafford outlined the changes to the external transmission noting that it is intended to push a short section of the line to the east, off Durrigere State Conservation Area land onto freehold land and to shift a short section of transmission line near the Hands on Rock to the east to avoid a land parcel owned by Mudgee LALC. • Dr Julia Imrie noted the Proponent's intention to avoid land owned by

Mudgee LALC (Lot751) by moving the transmission line alignment east towards the Ulan Road reserve. She warned locating the cleared powerline route from the Hands on Rock car park to the entrance of The Drip picnic area would be unpopular with the public and urged consideration of a solution that avoids this culturally sensitive landscape and remnant vegetation altogether via the development of the REZ.

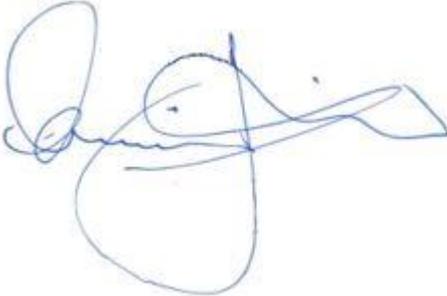
- Dr Imrie also mentioned other impacted land that may be owned by a local aboriginal group and suggested where the transmission line is proposed is still an issue. In response, Mr Stafford indicated that the EnergyCo REZ transmission line alignment appears to be a superior option that would avoid impacts to that land owned by Mudgee LALC.
- Mr Stafford detailed the local road upgrades and advised that discussions were progressing with Council's regarding access to the site, advising that it is intended to undertake road upgrades concurrently as the project development progresses. In respect of issues with crossing the Denman Bridge he advised that it is intended to go around the bridge on local roads through Muswellbrook local government area (LGA).
- Cr Campbell commented that Muswellbrook Council has limited use of local roads, in respect of State Significant Infrastructure, to proposals occurring within the Muswellbrook Local Government Area.
- Mr Stafford outlined the road intersection upgrades required and other road improvements. Cr Campbell requested clarification regarding other bridges that may require upgrade in the Upper Hunter Local Government Area and questioned if there were issues passing through the main street of Merriwa. Mr Stafford advised all other bridges had been checked and there was no issue with passage through Merriwa.
- With the consent of the Chair, Kas Wren enquired as to the number of vehicles to be involved in transporting equipment. Mr Stafford advised that there would be approximately 300 one-way vehicle movements per day during the peak construction period.
- Mr Stafford spoke to the Impact Assessment table. He noted that in terms of visual impact there will be no change in visual impact ratings at non-associated residences despite amendment to the height of towers. He noted that 11 additional non-associated residences are within the 'black line' of visual magnitude whilst 37 additional non-associated residences within 'blue line' of visual magnitude. Those within the 'black line' require detailed analysis whilst those within the 'blue line' will not require as much detailed analysis. He highlighted the recommendation that the distance out to which visual mitigation measures (landscape screening) should be offered to non-associated residences be increased to 4,950 metres (an increase of 950 metres). Mr Stafford also provided an explanation of how visual impacts are assessed and addressed.
- Mr Stafford stepped the committee through the noise assessment. He advised that a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is being proposed as a component of this modification – several options are being examined with a 150 MW/300 MWh indicative capacity.
- With the consent of the Chair, Cr Rindfleish asked how loud will the turbines be? Mr Stafford advised that there will be a slight increase (< 2 dB(A)) in the noise level above what has been previously approved at 11

non-associated residences, but the levels are still predicted to comply with applicable noise limits in accordance with the NSW Noise Bulletin (either 35 dB(A) or background noise + 5 dB(A), whichever is the greater). Dr Imrie made the point that 35 dB(A) was not a realistic level for background noise in respect of isolated country areas, with the actual background noise level being significantly quieter.

- Mr Stafford highlighted the inclusion of a concrete batching plant at the property owned by Tilt (near Cliffdale Road, Turill) for the purpose of providing concrete for installation of poles for the 330 kV external transmission line. It was noted that there is an existing concrete batching plant at Ulan that could be utilised.
- In terms of biodiversity, Mr Stafford detailed the changes to vegetation to be cleared, advising that 452 ha of White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (an increase of 250.9 ha) and 42 ha of White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (an increase of 31.7 ha) would require clearing. He indicated that the extent of ground disturbance and clearing was due to the complexity of the topography. The proposed clearances are a conservative estimate and will be refined in the detailed design phase (e.g. steeper batter design to reduce cut/fill requirements). The clearance estimates relate to all ground disturbance (inc. anticipated public road upgrades) and are a worst-case scenario.
- Cr Campbell sought advice on the volume of concrete that would be required for the project. Mr Stafford took the question on notice. **ACTION**
- In respect of the Box Gum Woodland, Mr Stafford noted that both the Approved Project and the proposed Modification are likely to result in serious and irreversible impact (SAIL) on the NSW listed box gum woodland critically endangered ecological communities (CEEC). He advised that DPE is the authority to determine whether an SAIL will result and can require additional mitigation measures as part of any approval granted.
- Cr Campbell requested comment on the implications for Cassilis from the project. Mr Stafford indicated that accommodation was a consideration, with the opportunity for unused housing to be occupied during construction.

8.2 Consultation Update

- Ms Holberton provided an overview of the community consultation to date including interaction with various government agencies, local government, and the community, including community groups.
- Discussion proceeded on various housing and accommodation options.
- Ms Holberton reported that from community feedback the main question was "When is it going to happen?" She also noted that the assessed community perception of the project is neutral to somewhat positive.
- Ms Holberton noted community comments on the Voluntary Planning Agreement and indicated that this may be addressed in the Response to Submissions process. She indicated that the Proponent is keen to consult with the Councils and reach an agreed position.
- Ms Holberton indicated that there would be information provided on the

	<p>Proponent's website outlining the difference between the Approved Project and the Modification. Further, a newsletter will be available within the Coolah Diary as to how to make a submission to the Modification. She also advised that the exhibition process is run by DPE, but this will be supported by the Proponent with fact sheets, maps and other information material made available to the community.</p>
<p>9. Other Agenda Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>10. Actions Required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Chair raise the level and nature of representation from local government authorities on the CCC with the DPE. • That the Chair formally confirm with EnergyCo that liaison/discussion will occur between GDH and renewable energy development proponents as part of the analyse of impacts on infrastructure in the Hunter Valley due to proposed renewable energy developments in the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone. • That Tilt advise the CCC on the estimated volume of concrete that will be required for the project. <p><i>Proponent's Response: It is conservatively estimated that approximately 482,240 tonnes of cement, sand, and aggregate will be required for the 220 turbine project, assuming a 1,000 cubic metre turbine foundation.</i></p>
<p>11. General Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>12. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Meeting closed: 2.00pm. The Chair thanked all for their attendance.</p> <p>Next meeting: Chair to advise on a future date.</p>
<p>13. Meeting minutes approved</p>	 <p>Michael J. Silver OAM Independent Chair 21 April 2022</p>



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROJECT

CCC MEETING
22 MARCH 2022



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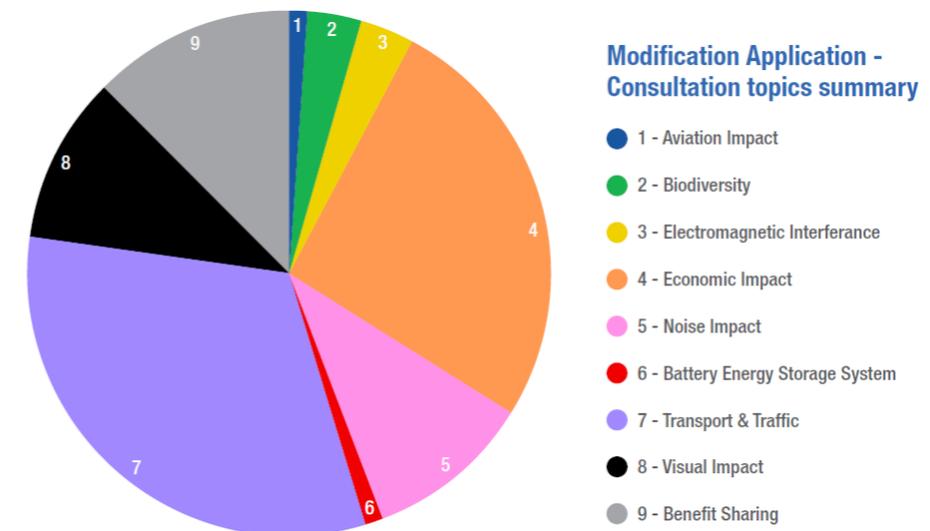
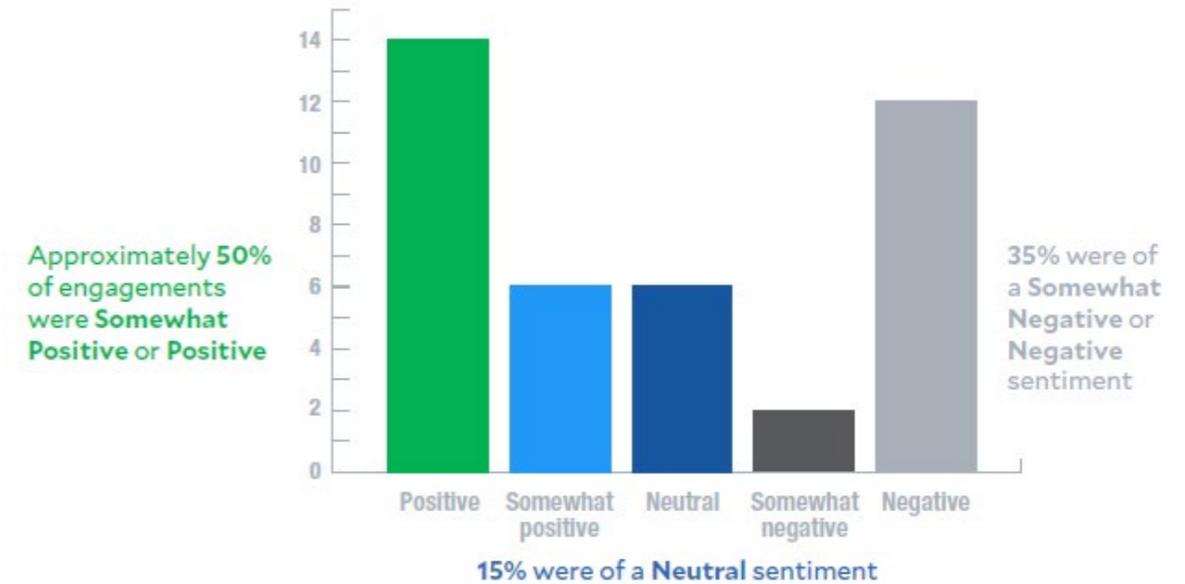
5. QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM CONSULTATION UPDATE



- Widely promoted, pre-lodgement consultation drop-in sessions held 26-28 October in Coolah and Cassilis
- Promotion included printed newsletters, email updates, radio announcements and interviews, and a comprehensive suite of information available on the Project website
- Recorded webinar presentations (noise, visual and project overview)
- Most popular topics were Economic Impact and Transport and Traffic, followed by Benefit Sharing and Visual Impact
- Sentiment was mostly neutral to positive
- Substantial consultation has also occurred with:
 - DAWE (Federal Government)
 - DPE (incl. BCS), TfNSW, EnergyCo, NPWS (State Government)
 - Warrumbungle, Upper Hunter and Mid-western councils
 - Councils and relevant residents along OSOM Haulage Route



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM CONSULTATION UPDATE

Since October 2021:

- Continued consultation with community, government and regulatory bodies
- Ongoing dialogue with community groups regarding benefit sharing / ad-hoc sponsorship opportunities
- Continued development of Goods & Services Register (will also inform how we approach social impacts during construction, i.e., accommodation) & ICN
- February 2022 newsletter (including report back from consultation and details on submission process)
- CCC vacancies

CALLING ON CIVIC-MINDED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

We have two vacancies on the Liverpool Range Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC).

CCC's provide an important forum for open dialogue between the proponent and representatives of the local community, stakeholder groups and local councils on issues directly relating to the Project.

We are seeking stakeholders who live locally or are members of a stakeholder group (community, environment, Aboriginal or industry) to join. Members are expected to contribute constructively to committee discussions, attend around 4 - 6 meetings a year, and communicate information about the Project between the committee and the broader community.

Tilt Renewables

Liverpool Range Wind Farm

HAPPY New Year
from everyone at
Tilt Renewables

Newsletter Edition
8
February 2022

Tilt Renewables is moving forward with an application to modify some aspects of the approved wind farm project.

A lot of progress has been made on refining the proposed modifications to the approved Liverpool Range Wind Farm project since meeting with the community for drop-in consultation sessions in late-October 2021. We thank everyone who came along to the Coolah and Cassilis sessions or spoke with us over phone or email, providing valuable feedback and input on the Project.

This newsletter sets out a summary of consultation feedback, what we are proposing to lodge with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) in the coming weeks as well as a call out for nominations for the Community Consultative Committee (CCC). We will send out a notification to the community and project stakeholders once we have lodged the modification application.

Briefly, some background...

The Liverpool Range Wind Farm project received planning approval for up to 267 turbines in March 2018, and since then there have been advancements in wind turbine technology. The latest turbines, while larger, are more efficient, meaning the Project could be built with fewer turbines while powering more homes with clean energy.

The optimisation work undertaken since late 2019 has identified changes to the approved project that would allow the Project to be built and operated more efficiently.

Approved Project Snapshot

Location
East of Coolah and north of Cassilis, NSW

Turbines
Up to 267 (Approved Project)

Installed capacity
About 1000 MW

Project investment
\$1.5 billion

Environmental benefits
The Approved Project will provide enough clean energy to power approximately 477,000 homes and save 2.1 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of removing 672,000 cars from our roads.

Economic benefits
The project will provide \$3000 per wind turbine, per year for the life of the Project for community investment. The Project will generate a massive increase in revenue for local accommodation and hospitality businesses, service stations and fencing contractors.

Employment
Up to 800 direct jobs during construction and up to 47 full-time staff during the 25 plus years of operation.

SIGN UP & STAY INFORMED
Please subscribe to the newsletter to ensure you receive all Project updates and information. Hover over the QR code or send us an email to subscribe. liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com

For more information, or to provide any feedback, please visit the project website www.liverpoolrangewindfarm.com.au

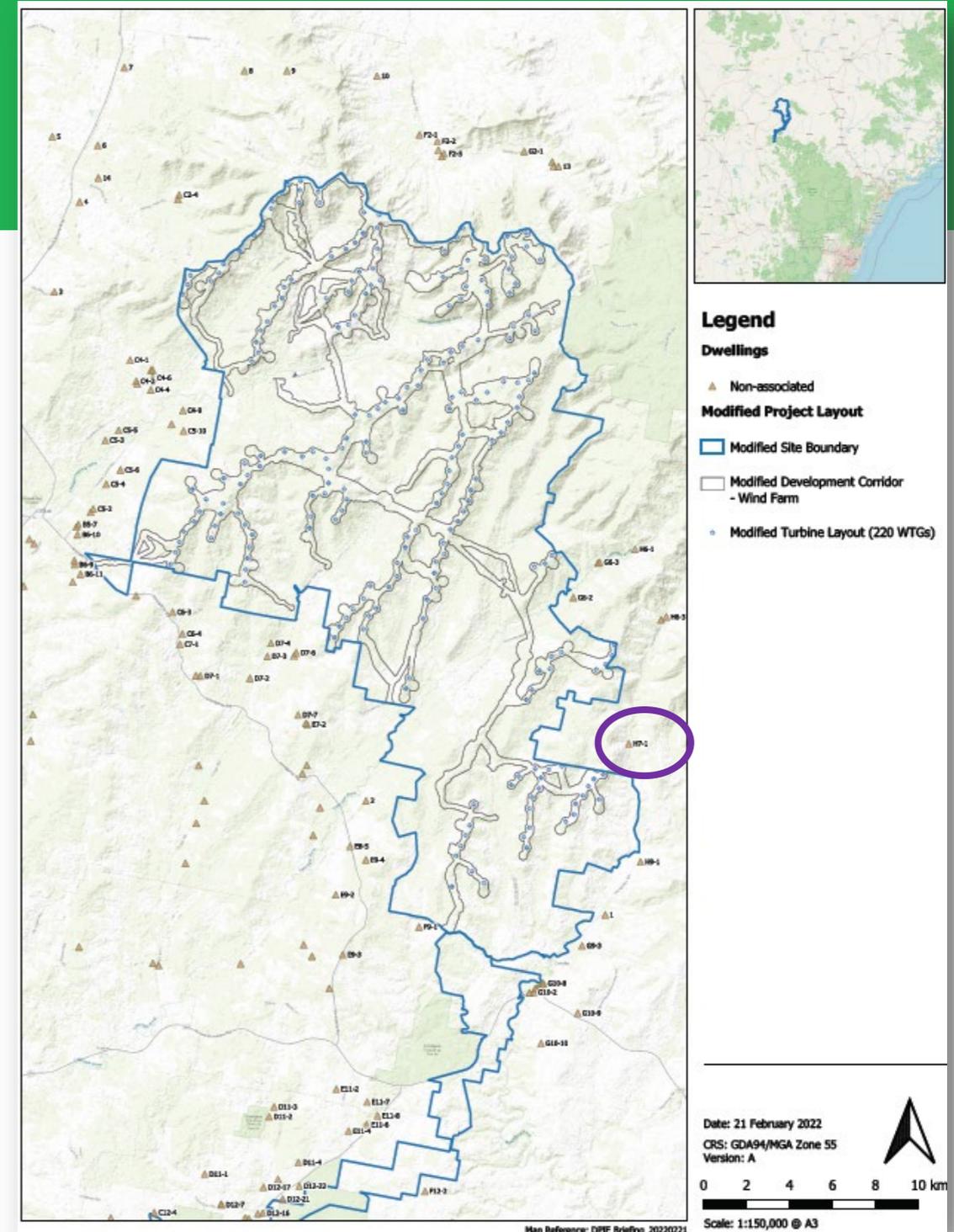
LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Modification Application:

- Application formally lodged with DPE on 15 March 2022
- DPE to advise when public exhibition will commence/conclude, newspaper advertisements
- After public exhibition, Response to Submissions (RTS) phase will commence, after which a determination (or further exhibition) will be made by DPE

Turbine layout and parameters:

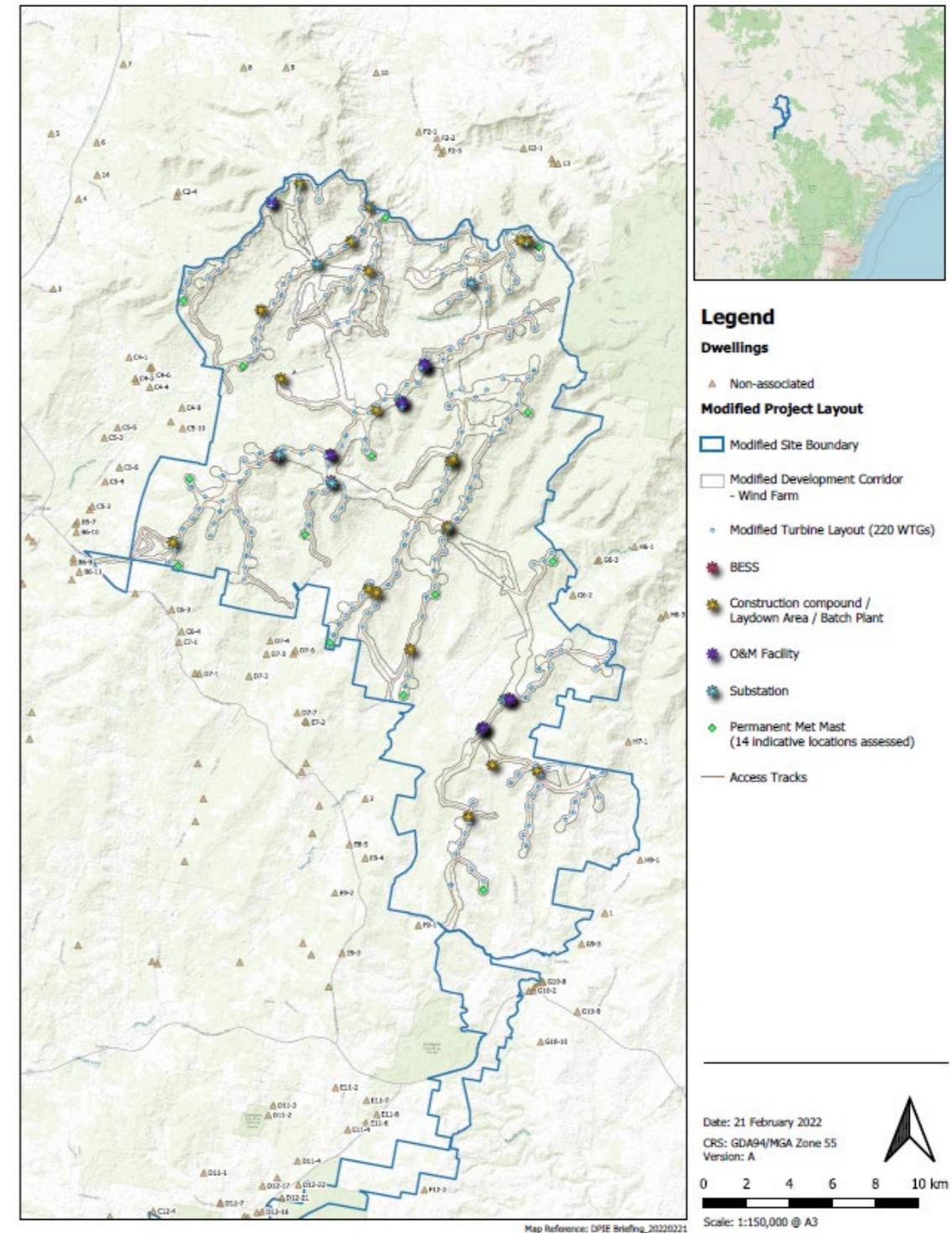
- Max. 220 turbines / max. blade tip height of 250 m AGL
- Proposed increase to turbine micro-siting limit to 250 m (currently 100 m)
- 36 x Non-associated residences would be located closer to a turbine than compared to Approved Project (31 are between 1 m - 200 m closer)
- Distance to nearest Non-associated residence (ID: H7-1) increased from 1,803 m to 1,860 m.



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Wind farm infrastructure

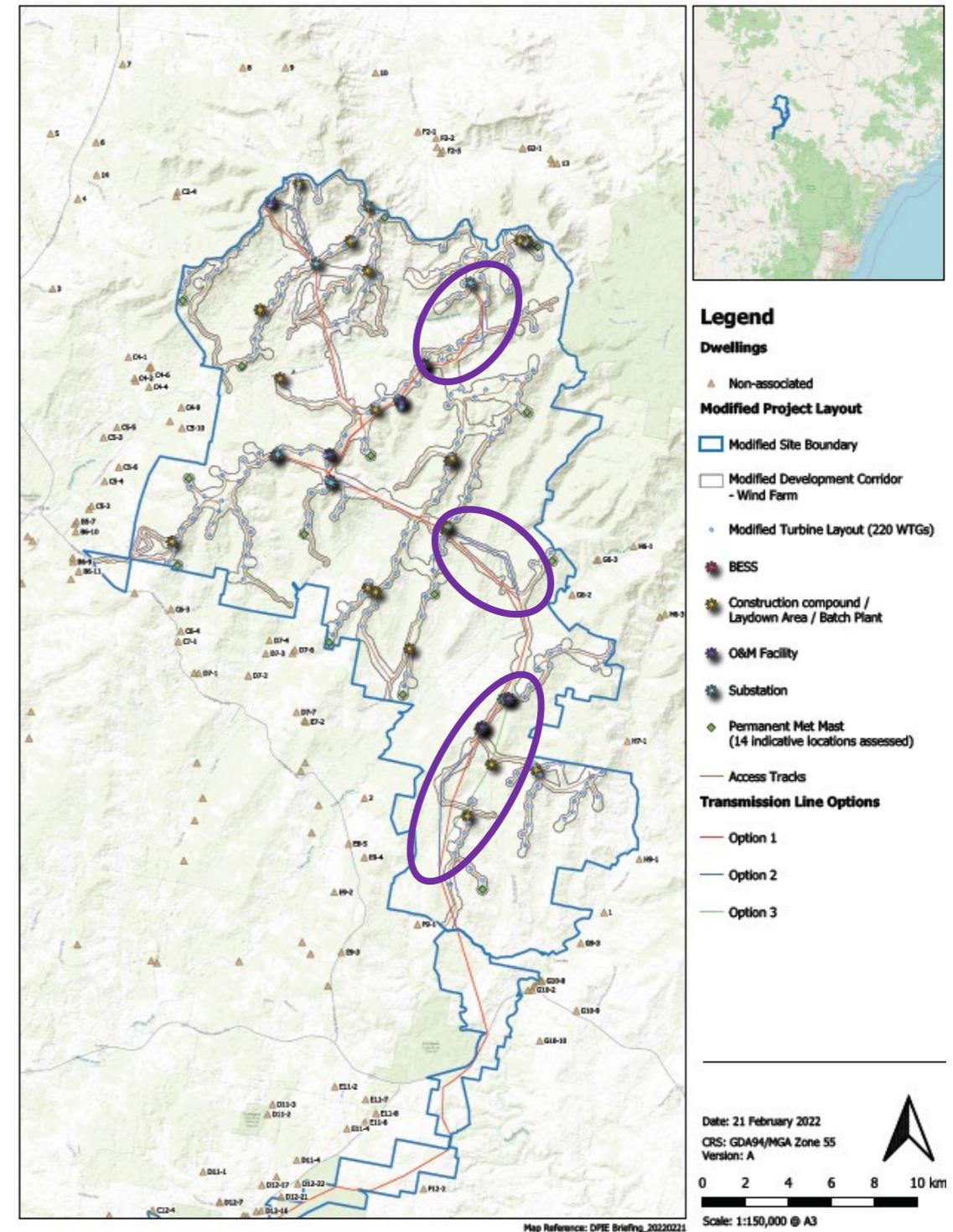
- Include Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with indicative capacity ~150 MW / 300 MWh
- Up to 14 x permanent metmasts (+4) – 40 x indicative locations
- Up to 7 x collector substations (+3) – 11 x indicative locations
- Up to 3 x O&M facilities (+2) – 6 x indicative locations
- Up to 9 x temporary construction compounds/laydown areas (+3) – 23 x indicative locations
- Up to 9 x temporary concrete batch plants (+3) – 23 x indicative locations



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Internal Transmission Line:

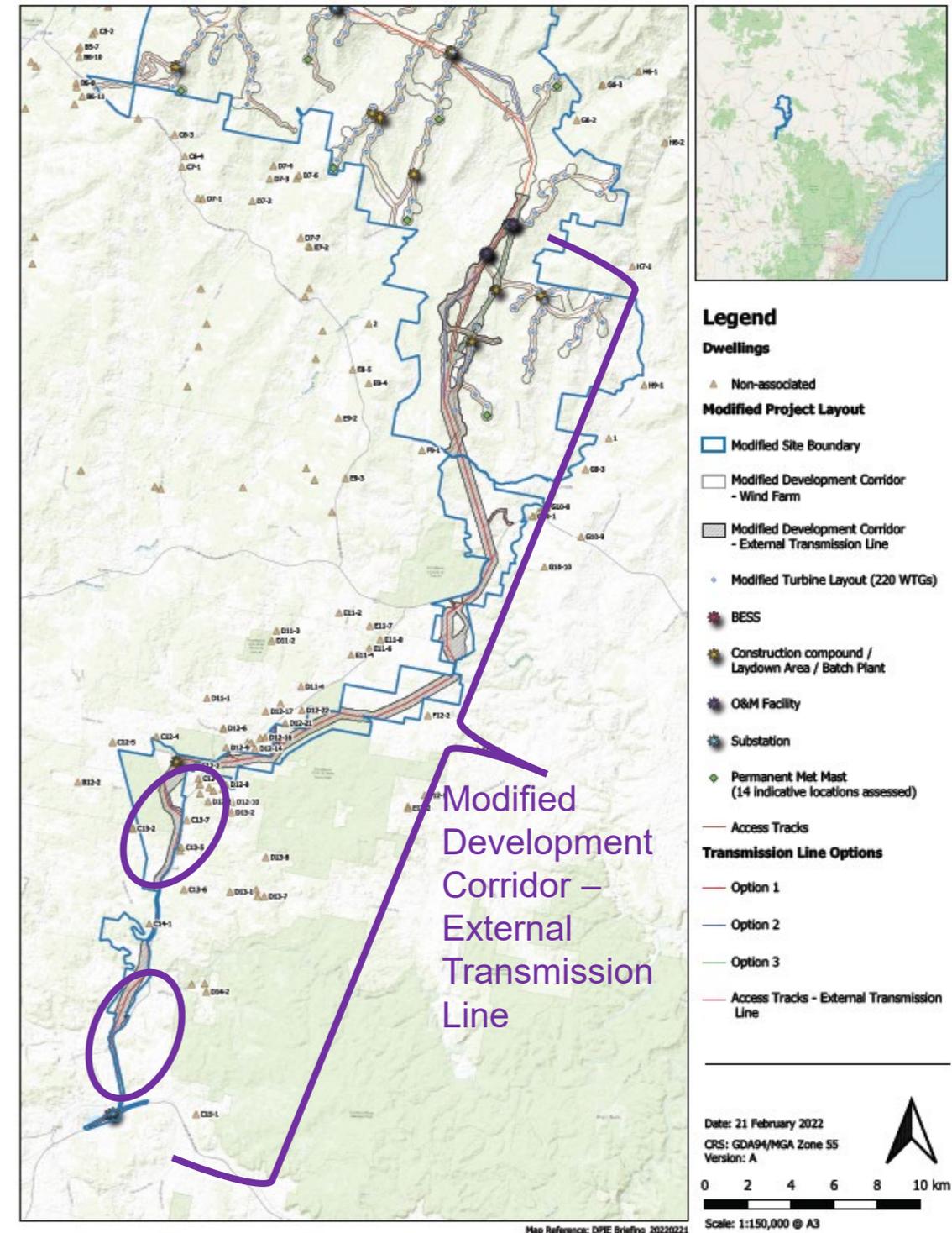
- Changes to internal transmission line alignment (+15.7 km)
- Inclusion of multiple transmission line alignment options due to complex terrain
- Most likely a combination of transmission line towers and poles, due to complex terrain and long span distances



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

External Transmission Line

- For the main part approved transmission line alignment has been adopted
- Some minor changes proposed near Durridgere State Conservation Area (near Cliffdale Road) and Hands on Rock cultural heritage site (off Ulan Road)
- Modified Development Corridor divided into Wind Farm and External Transmission Line components:
 - Wind Farm and External Transmission Line components are likely to be constructed by different contractors and owned and operated by different corporate entities
 - Wind Farm and External Transmission Line have distinct environmental management and compliance obligations



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

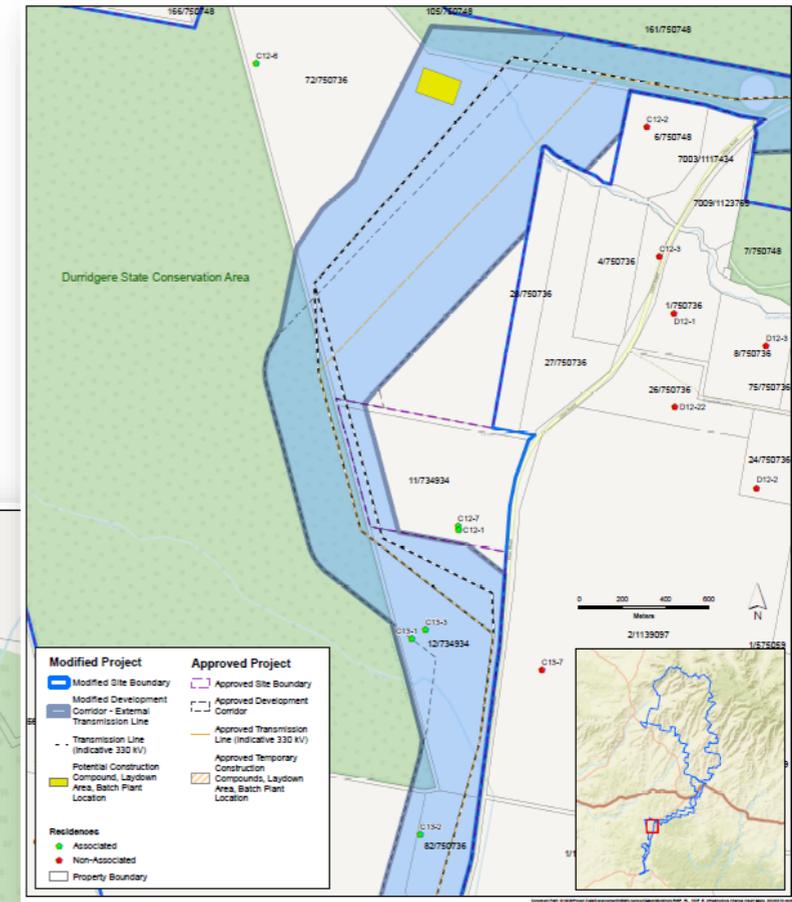
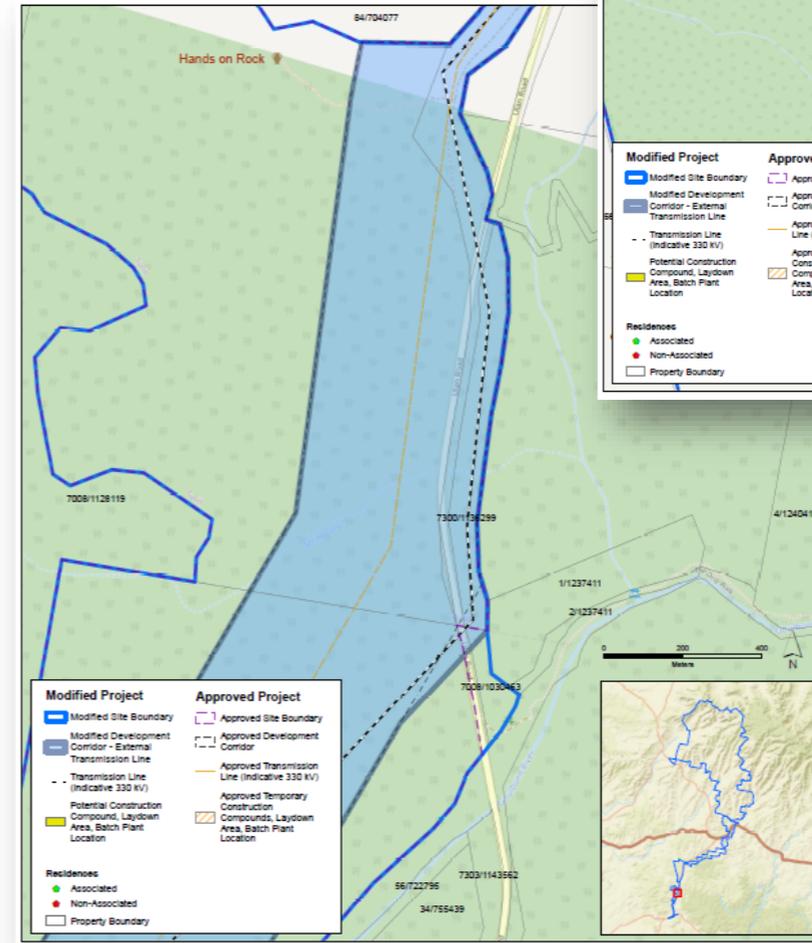
External Transmission Line

Durridgere SCA:

- Shift short section of transmission line west to increase separation to nearby Non-associated residence
- Shift short section east off Durridgere SCA land onto freehold land
- Include a temporary construction compound / concrete batch plant

Hands on Rock:

- Shift short section of transmission line west to avoid land parcel owned by Mudgee LALC (Lot 751/DP1270886)
- Inclusion of a small portion of Lot 7008/DP1030463 into Modified Site Boundary
- Proposed alignment is ~ 200 m north of The Drip picnic area

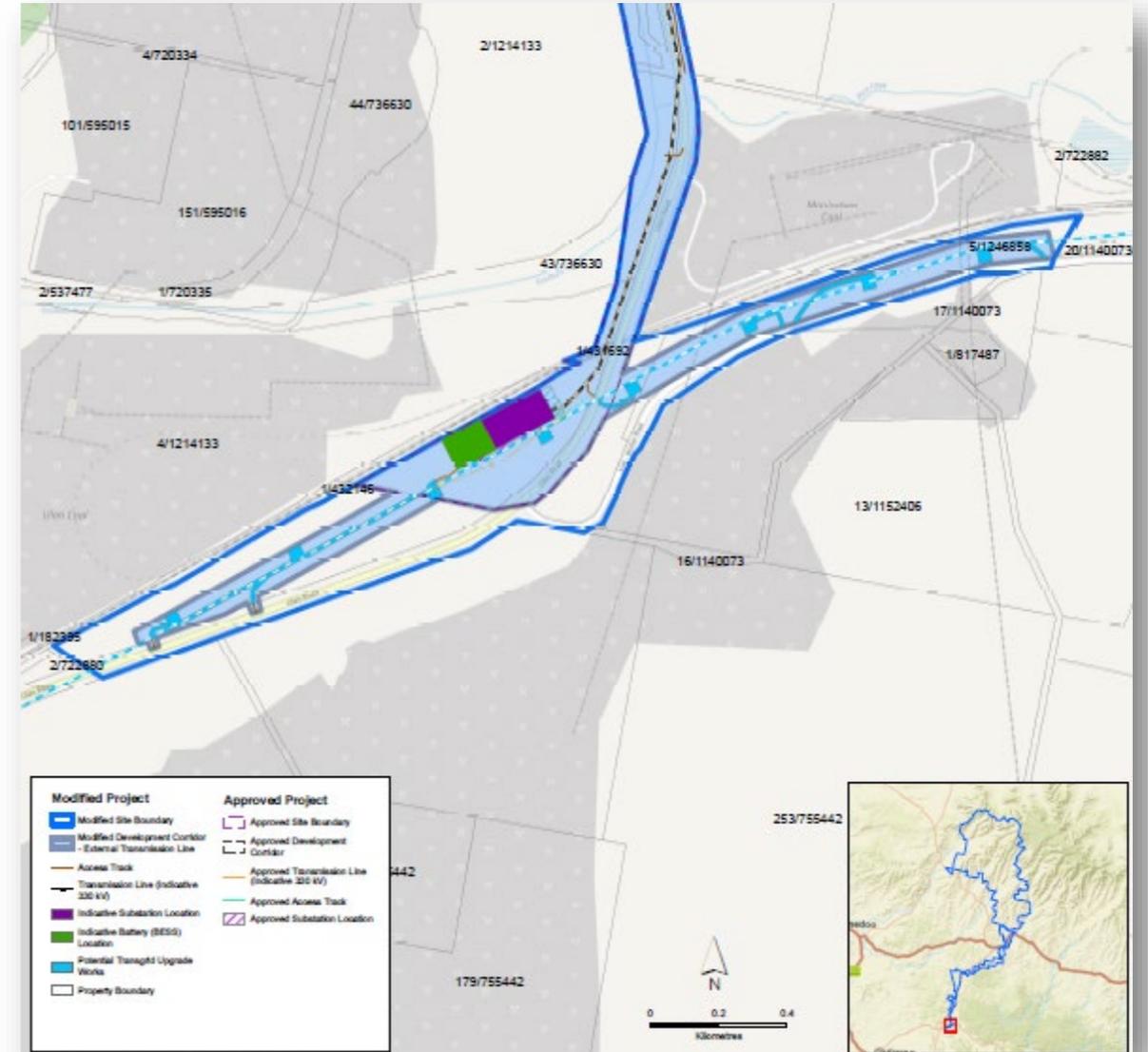


LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

External Transmission Line

Inclusion of potential upgrade works to TransGrid Infrastructure at Ulan:

- Tower strengthening works (inc. construction pads)
- Access tracks into easement from Ulan Road and Ulan-Wollar Road
- Stringing of OPGW cabling between towers (no ground disturbance)

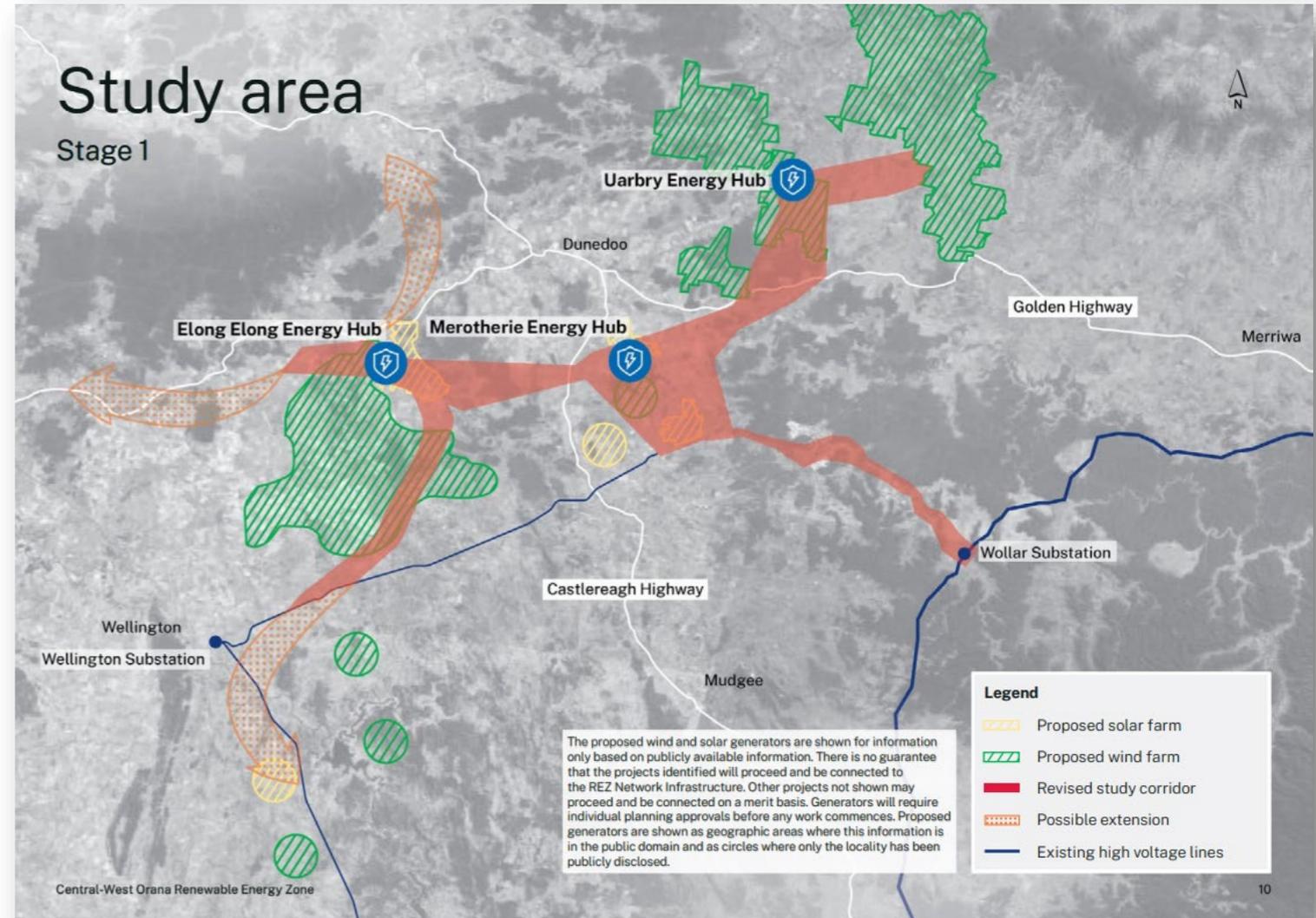


LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

CENTRAL-WEST ORANA REZ (CWO REZ) TRANSMISSION LINE

Potential alternate connection point

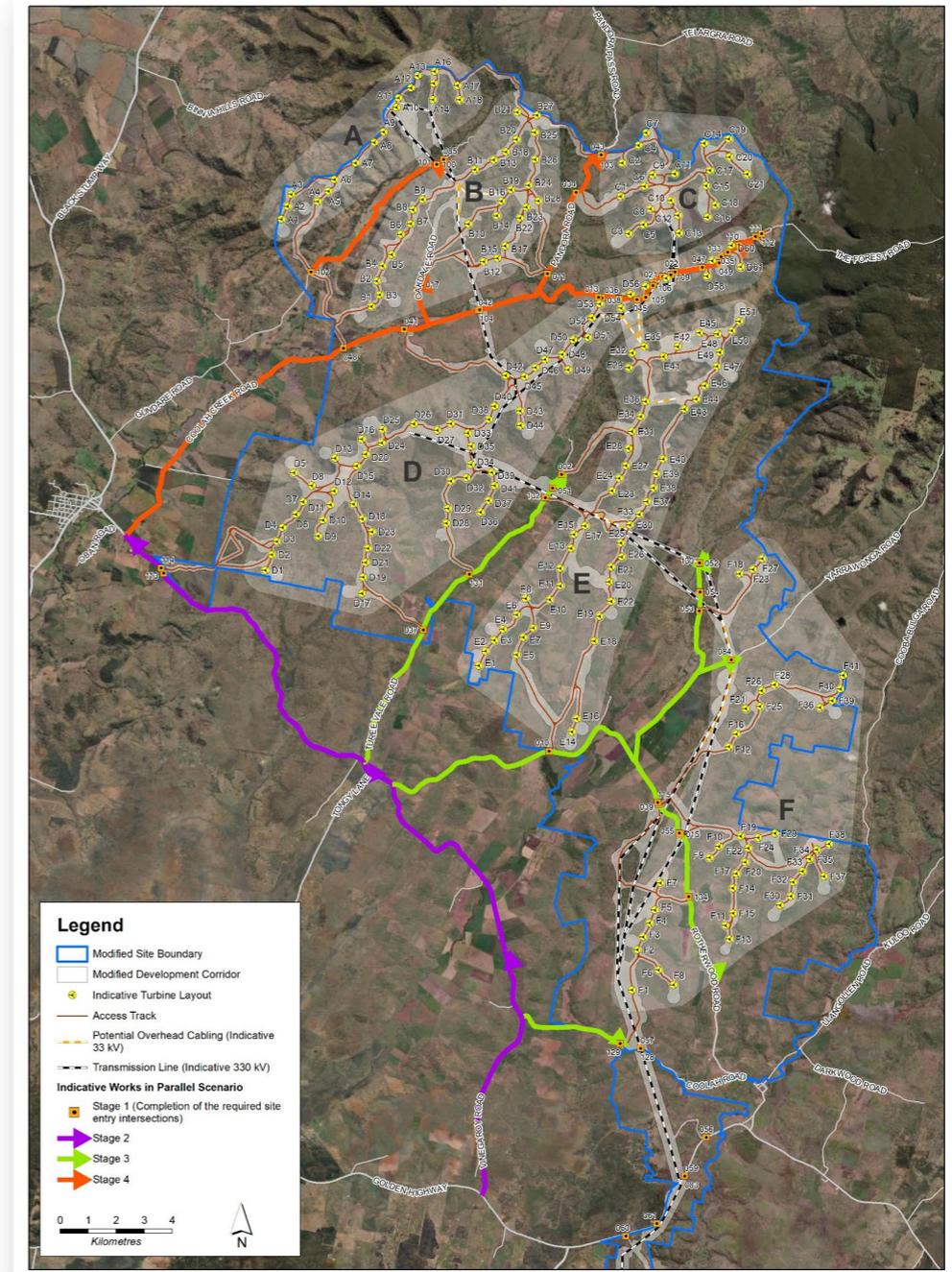
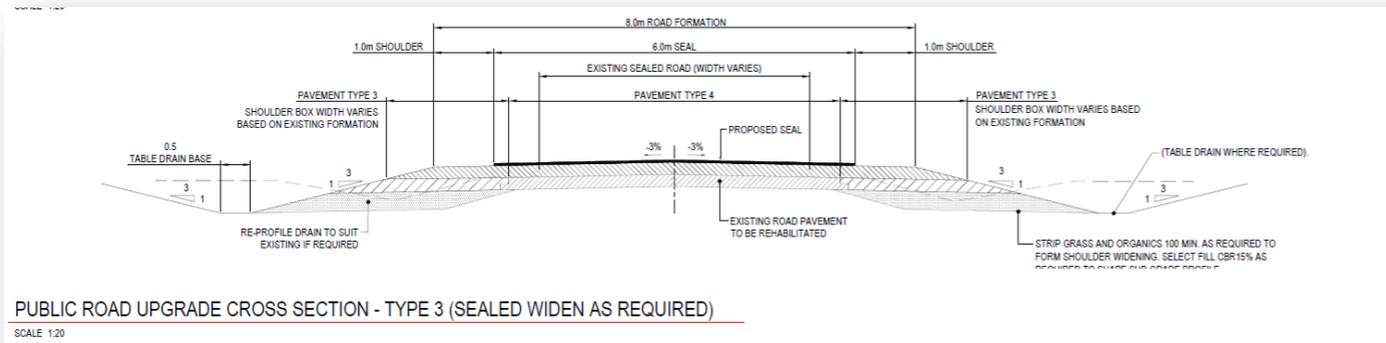
- Late February 2022 EnergyCo released revised study area - provides a potential alternate connection corridor for the project to consider.
- We are working closely with EnergyCo to understand more about the CWO REZ transmission line project, in particular where the Liverpool Range Wind Farm project could potentially connect into the transmission line and when it would be available for connection.
- In the interim, and in order to proceed with the Modification Application, we will pursue the approved transmission line option and aim to reduce environmental impacts as far as practicable.



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Public Road Upgrades and Potential Staging

- Updated public road upgrade standards, as agreed with 3 x councils
- Additional 65 potential site access points identified (majority along State Forest Rd and off Ulan Rd)
- Inclusion of portion of Gundare Road within Modified Site Boundary for Heavy vehicles to construct short section of transmission line only (i.e. no OSOM movements)
- Inclusion of indicative road upgrade staging strategy/Works in Parallel scenario – approx. 75 additional vehicles per day



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Indicative OSOM Haulage Route

- Changes to indicative OSOM Haulage Route to avoid built-up areas of Maitland and bypass Denman Bridge (low height clearance).
- Use of Local roads within Muswellbrook LGA:
 - Bengalla Rd and Wybong Rd to avoid Denman Bridge
 - Edderton Rd to avoid Golden Hwy/Denman Rd intersection and Denman Bridge
- Some localised upgrades required along OSOM Haulage Route
- No major ecology or heritage constraints at identified impact areas
- Encroachment into adjacent public and private land required at several identified impact areas



Technical Assessment	Key findings/next steps
Visual Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No change in visual impact ratings at any Non-associated residence - 11 x additional Non-associated residences within 'black line' of visual magnitude - 37 x additional Non-associated residences within 'blue line' of visual magnitude - Recommend that Development Consent is updated to increase distance out to which visual mitigation measures should be offered to Non-associated residences to 4,950 m (increase of 950 m)
Shadow Flicker	No shadow flicker at any Non-associated residence
Noise	<p>Turbine noise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Turbine noise is predicted to comply with applicable noise limits at all Non-associated residences - Slight increase in turbine noise levels at 11 Non-associated residences (between 0.1 and 1.7 dB(A)) <p>BESS and substation noise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will easily achieve conservatively-reduced noise limit of 30 dB(A) at all Non-associated residences <p>Construction noise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 x Non-associated residences near potential concrete batch plant off Cliffdale Road may exceed 35 dB(A) and would be considered 'noise affected' <i>for operations outside of standard hours only</i> <p>Construction traffic noise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No increase noise expected as overall traffic volumes and public roads anticipated to be used remain generally consistent with Approved Project.

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Technical Assessment	Key findings/next steps
Biodiversity Development Assessment Report	<p>Native vegetation/habitat: 16 x PCTs impacted. Updates to native vegetation clearance limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 451.8 ha of <i>White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</i> CEEC under the BC Act (increase of 250.9 ha) - 42.1 ha of <i>White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</i> CEEC under the EPBC Act (increase of 31.7 ha) <p>Bird/bat strike risk assessment: Moderate or High risk to 16 bird/bat species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall impact of blade strike and barotrauma is considered to be consistent with the Approved Project. - BBAMP to be prepared to mitigate risks <p>Box-Gum Woodland CEEC: both Approved Project and Modified Project likely to result in serious and irreversible impact (SAIL):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DPE/BCS to determine whether SAIL is triggered and what additional mitigation measures are required
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 16 x additional Aboriginal cultural heritage places identified - No material changes to management protocols requested by RAPs - HMP required to mitigate risks
Historic Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two locally listed items “Yarrowonga” and “Dalkeith” partially intersected by Modified Development Corridor (internal portion of the transmission line) - No direct impacts to heritage places are expected

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Technical Assessment	Key findings/next steps
Traffic Impact Assessment	<p>Traffic volumes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic volumes are similar to Approved Project (~ 300 vpd during peak construction period) - Works in Parallel scenario will result in minor increase in vehicle movements <p>Site access points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional 65 potential site access points identified (most along State Forest Road and Ulan Road) - Safe sight distance (SISD/ASD) requirements are satisfied at all site access points <p>Indicative road upgrades staging scenario:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional traffic is minor - Recommend road safety review to identify high priority upgrades and implement community consultation strategy
OSOM Haulage Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some localised upgrades along Indicative OSOM Haulage Route required - Muswellbrook council acknowledge the need to use Local roads to avoid Denman Bridge – are in discussions with State government to reclassify roads

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Technical Assessment	Key findings/next steps
Electromagnetic Interference	<p>Negligible change from Approved Project. Key potential impacts are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NSW Telco proposed P2P communications link: will impact 3 x approved and 3 x modified turbines – Tilt seeking to work with NSW Telco to find alternate pathways - BOM: potential impact to S-span weather radar at Namoi – BOM will pursue a strategic solution involving State Government - Land mobile service: 1 x Non-associated resident (Betrola) may be impacted – mitigation measures are available. Landholder supportive of approach
Aviation	<p>Negligible change from Approved Project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>No</u> aviation lighting is required. - Minor change to Grid LSALT (100 ft) is required (routine activity).
Preliminary Hazard Assessment (BESS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concludes that significant off-site risks are unlikely. - All identified hazards are manageable through appropriate technical and management safeguards (e.g. appropriate design standards, safety/protection systems, management plans [safety, emergency, bushfire etc]).

Preparation of materials for public exhibition to include:

- Updates to Project website and Modified Project (ArcGIS) site
- Updated Project maps
- Updated photomontages (where required)
- Updated fact sheets:
 - **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment**
 - **Aviation Impact Assessment**
 - **Biodiversity (Bird & Bat) Assessment**
 - **Biodiversity (Vegetation) Assessment**
 - **Electromagnetic Interference Assessment**
 - **Economic Impact Assessment**
 - **Historic Heritage Assessment**
 - **Noise Assessment (Construction)**
 - **Noise Assessment (Operational)**
 - **Preliminary Hazard Assessment (Battery Energy Storage System (BESS))**
 - **Shadow Flicker Assessment**
 - **Transport & Traffic Impact Assessment**
 - **Visual Impact Assessment**
 - **Summary of Proposed Modifications**
 - **Project FAQ**
 - **Transmission Line Information**

Modification Application Process

Below is an outline of the process that the Modification Application will be prepared, assessed and determined.



Technical Studies

Relevant studies have been undertaken to assess any potential impacts that may result from the Modified Project.



Consultation on Modification Application

We will discuss the proposed modifications with relevant government agencies and departments, councils, landowners and local communities, including traditional owners and Aboriginal Parties, to share information and understand any concerns. Feedback will be considered on the technical studies and Modification Application and in ongoing detailed design and construction planning.



Modification Application (we are here)

We will finalise a Modification Application Report and submit it to DPIE for an initial assessment before it goes onto the NSW Major Projects website for public exhibition. We are aiming to lodge the Modification Application with DPIE over the coming weeks.



Public Exhibition

The Modification Application will be placed on public exhibition and submissions may be made in response to the Modification Application.



Response to Submissions Report (RTS)

If required, an RTS Report will be prepared to address issues raised during the Public Exhibition period.



DPIE Assessment

We expect that it will take around 6 - 12 months for the Modification Application to be assessed.



Approval / Refusal

Following assessment, a decision will be made on the Modification Application.

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

PUBLIC EXHIBITION & NEXT STEPS

Public exhibition support:

- Planning promotion of public exhibition details/dates in local papers (incl. along OSOM route)
- Exhibition of Modified Project at Pandora Gallery with takeaway material (fact sheets) available
- Coolah view photomontage at Outback Press
- Post Offices with takeaway material: Coolah, Cassilis, Merriwa
- Delivery of full Modification Application Report to Council offices and community members (upon request)

Making a Submission

Once the Modification Application has been reviewed by DPIE it will be placed on public exhibition for at least 30 days.

The public exhibition process involves:



Publication on DPIE's website (NSW Major Projects Planning Portal)



Advertisement in local newspapers



Written notice to the councils of the area in which the Project is located.

DPIE must also give notice to the owners or occupiers of land immediately next to the land to which the Project relates, and to owners or occupiers within any additional area determined by DPIE.

Submissions on the Project should be made via the Planning Portal. Should you have any concerns about the Project, we encourage you to get in touch with us so we can understand the concern and try and resolve any issues. Similarly, if you are supportive of or against the Project, we recommend you make a submission so we can address it in the Response to Submissions Report. Your continued feedback will help inform the final modifications to the approved project.

Remember to call or email us should you have questions about the Project:
[1800 WE TILT \(938 458\)](tel:1800WE TILT) or liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com

Hardcopy information material from the consultation sessions held in October 2021 is still available at the Coolah and Cassilis Post Offices. We are also more than happy to post you printed material upon request.

We will seek to exhibit information on the Modification Application at central locations during the period of public exhibition, such as at the Coolah Library.

QUESTIONS / DISCUSSION

THANK YOU



Liverpool Range Wind Farm MOD 1

Nicole Brewer
Director, Energy Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment

22 March 2022

Overview



Role of the Department of Planning and Environment

Overview of the assessment process

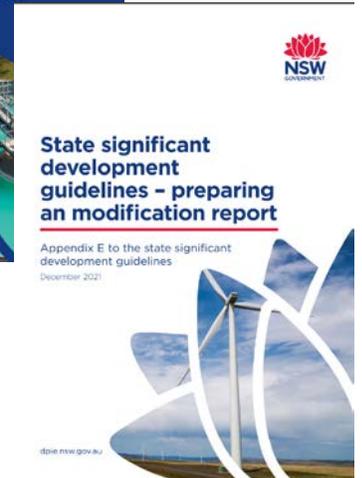
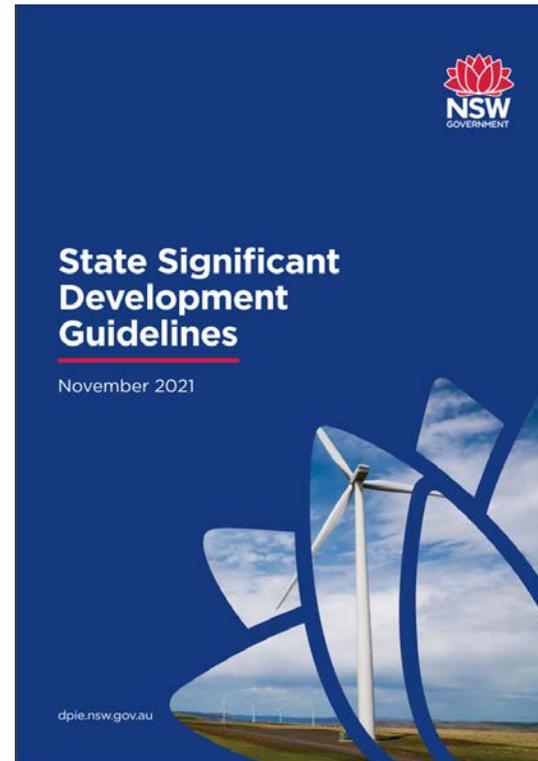
Opportunities for community input

Statutory Context and role of DPE

- State Significant Development – EP&A Act
- Consent Authority – Minister
- Other approvals:
 - Commonwealth
 - EPA licence
- SSD modification applications are assessed by the Department
- Whole of Government assessment

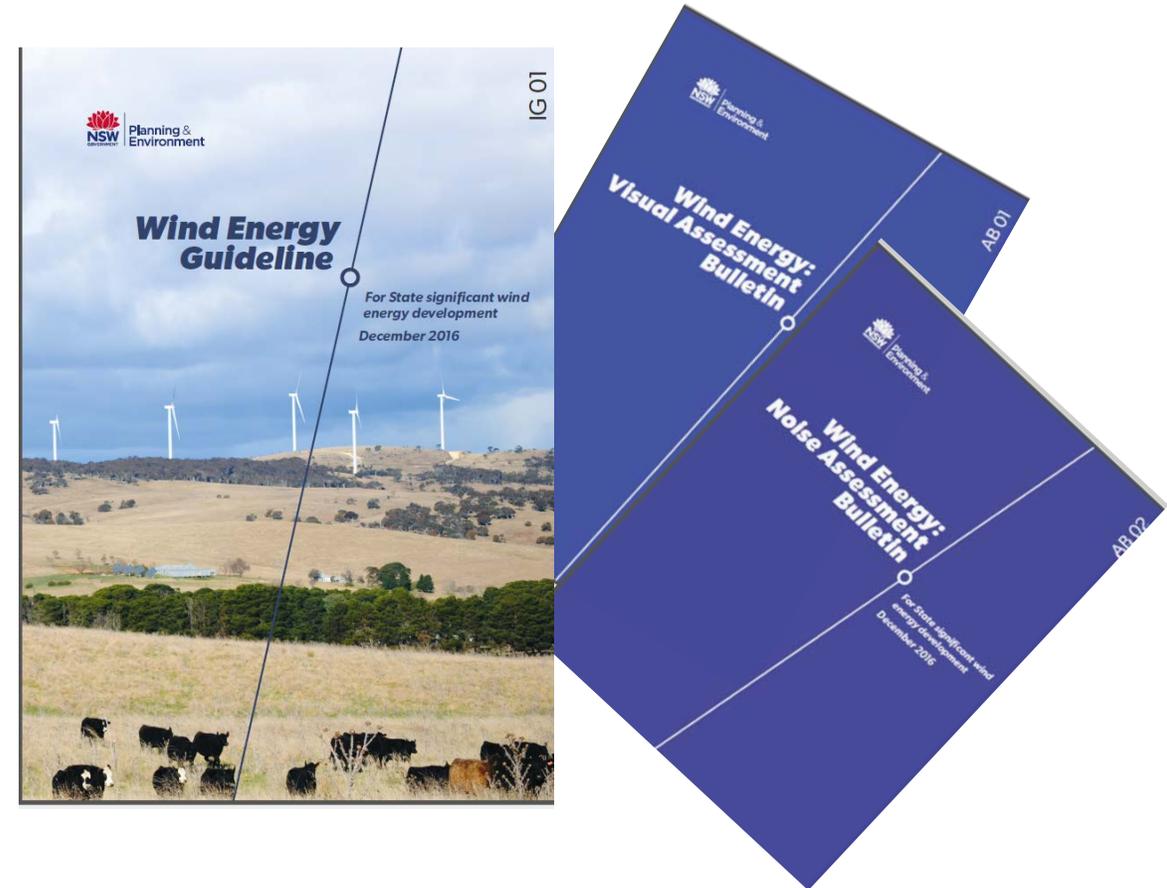
State Significant Development Guidelines

- Explains the assessment of state significant projects, including modification applications
- Technical Guidelines on:
 - Undertaking Engagement
 - Cumulative Impact Assessment
 - Social Impact Assessment
- Clear expectations for applicants, the community and government agencies involved in State significant project assessments



Role of Wind Energy Framework

- Guidance to the community, industry and regulators
- Planning framework for the assessment of large-scale wind energy development, including modification applications
- Includes:
 - Wind Energy Guideline
 - Guidance on PEA
 - Standard SEARs
 - Visual Assessment Bulletin
 - Noise Assessment Bulletin



Role of Wind Energy Guidelines

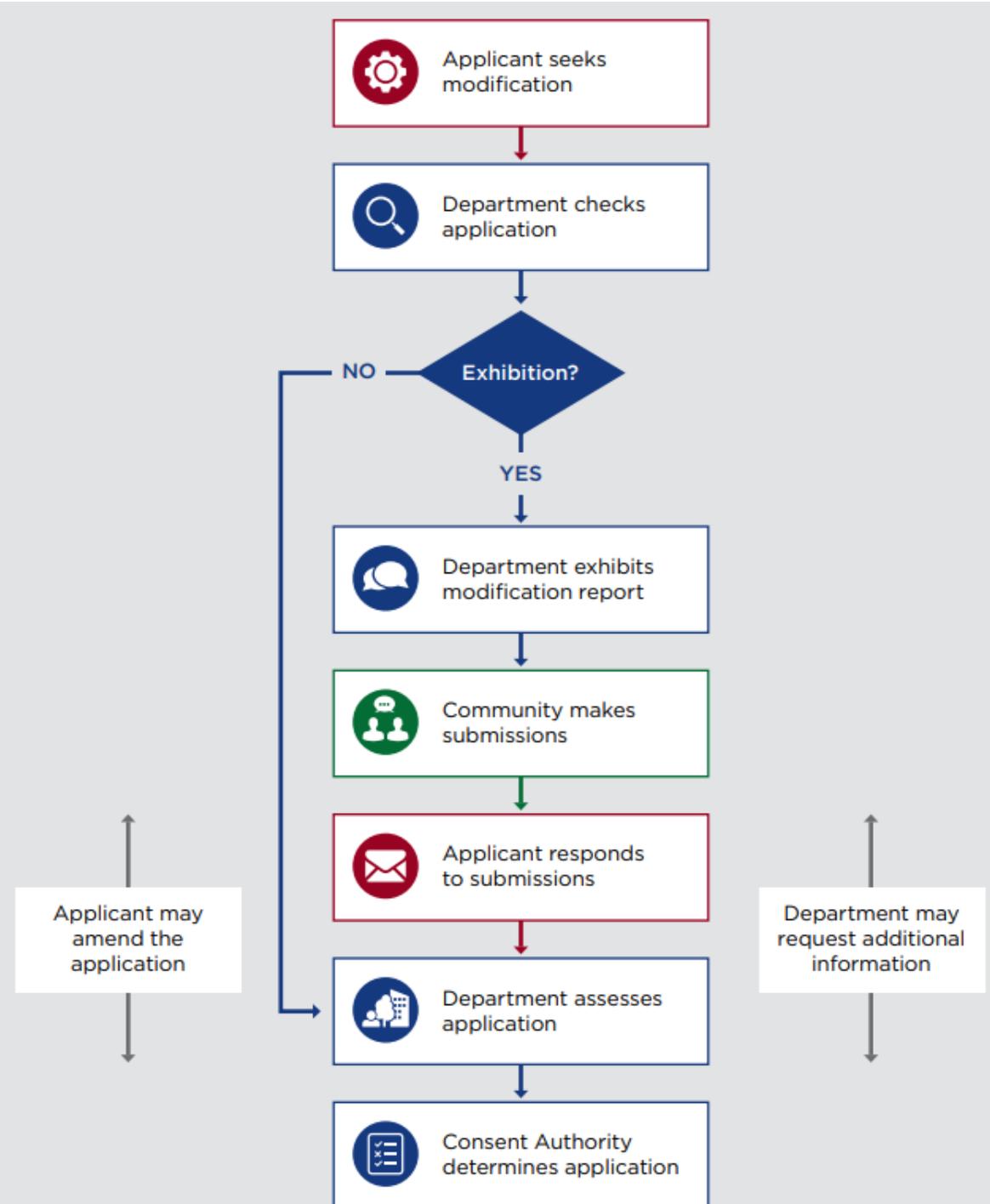
- **Visual Assessment Bulletin**

- How visual assessment should be prepared
- Assessment tools for where further assessment is needed:
 - distance from turbines
 - viewing multiple turbines

- **Noise Assessment Bulletin**

- How noise assessment should be prepared
- Criteria for NSW

State Significant Assessment Process for Modification Applications



Further information

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects> - **Search “Liverpool Range”**

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/assessment/state-significant-development/ssd-process> - **The SSD process**

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/policy-and-legislation/renewable-energy> - **NSW Wind Energy Framework**

<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/communityconsultativecommittees> - **Community Consultative Committee guidelines**

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Planning-reforms/Rapid-Assessment-Framework/Improving-assessment-guidance> - **State Significant Development Guidelines**

Contacts

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