

Referral

Before you start



Department
of Transport
and Planning

If a project has the potential for significant effect on the environment it should be referred under the Environment Effects Act 1978 to the Minister for Planning.

This referral form enables project proponents to formally lodge their referral documentation under the Environment Effects Act. This is required to ensure provision of relevant information on the project and its potential effects on the environment, in accordance with the Ministerial Guidelines for assessment of environmental effects under the Environment Effects Act (Ministerial Guidelines).

A formal referral (submitted via this form) will only be accepted for processing once the Impact Assessment Unit (IAU) at the Department is satisfied that it has been completed appropriately and contains adequate information.

NOTE: When completing and submitting this on-line referral form, the following will need to be uploaded/included:

- A signed copy of a **covering letter** to the Minister for Planning, explicitly referring the project under the Environment Effects Act for a decision on the need for an EES
- The completed **referral form** (completed in MS Word and not handwritten)
- Attachments, including **all supporting reports, maps and other information** that may be relevant to the content of the referral form
- Clear identification of the sources and accuracy of information within the form
- Documents should not exceed 20MB, as they need to be published with your completed referral form on the Department's website

Contact details

Applicant details

First name	Peter
Last name	Lausberg
Business or organisation name	MHWF Nominees Pty Ltd
Position title	Director
Contact number	0452077475
Email	peter.lausberg@refuture.com.au
I have lead consultant details	Yes
I am the lead consultant	No

Lead consultant details

First name	Emily
Last name	Scott
Business or organisation name	Umwelt
Position title	Senior Environmental Consultant
Contact number	0432939301
Email	escott@umwelt.com.au
I have referral author details	No

Project details

Overview

Proponent or organisation name MHWF Nominees Pty Ltd

Project name Moreton Hill Wind Farm

Project type Wind Farm Onshore

Project objective The primary objective of the Project is to develop a wind energy facility that will generate and supply renewable energy into the National Electricity Market (NEM) to supplement Victoria's energy needs. The Project will support Victoria and Australia's transition to renewable energy, as well as being a key contributor to mitigating the projected impacts of climate change by providing a renewable source of energy and subsequently reducing greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel energy generation. It is estimated that the Project will provide clean energy for 260,000 Victorian households and avoid 350,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions annually. Additionally, the proposed wind farm will offer the following benefits: • Support the Victorian Government's legislated renewable energy target of 40 percent by 2025 and 50 percent by 2030, and the recently updated targets of 65 percent by 2030 and 95 percent by 2035 that are intended to be legislated and working to achieve net zero emissions by 2045. • Support the Commonwealth Government's commitment to achieve up to 43 percent emission reductions below 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050. • Support Victoria's clean energy transition and contribute to the growth of the renewable energy industry in the Central Highlands region. • Contribute to the decarbonisation of Australia's energy market. • Invest significant funding into the regional economy, and into the Victorian economy and generate more than 200 jobs during construction. The Project will also generate indirect supply chain jobs, and employ an operations team of 10 to 15 full-time equivalents for the life of the Project (25-30 years). • Establish a community benefits fund of more than \$3 million per annum for the life of the Project. This will eventuate through a range of opportunities, such as community benefit funds, participation agreements, neighbour benefit schemes, community sponsorships, and grant initiatives on construction commencing.

Project description	The Project involves a renewable energy facility comprising a wind farm, a battery energy storage facility and a transmission line to connect the Project to the electricity network, and includes (but is not limited to): • Up to 62 wind turbines, each with a generation capacity of 6.8 MW and a maximum overall tip height of 252m. • Hardstands at the base of each turbine. • Underground and overhead reticulation cabling between turbines. • Onsite electrical substation. • A 220 kV underground transmission line connecting the Project from the onsite substation into the electricity network at Berrybank Terminal Station. • Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a storage capacity of up to 150 MW and associated water storage tanks. • 45,000 litre water tanks at each site entrance. • Internal site access tracks. • Up to four permanent meteorological monitoring masts. • Operations and maintenance facilities. • Other permanent ancillary works, including road upgrades. The Project also requires temporary infrastructure including two construction compounds, temporary laydown areas and two concrete batching plants
Is the project an element or stage in a larger project?	No
What is the estimated capital expenditure for development of the project?	Failed to convert value: 150000000000

Location

Street number	
Street name	Moreton Hill Road
Suburb	Skipton
Postcode	3361
State	Victoria
Location documents	Project location.pdf
Shape files	
Local council(s)	Corangamite Shire Golden Plains Shire
Location description	The Moreton Hill Wind Farm is located in the Central Highlands region of western Victoria, within Golden Plains Shire and Corangamite Shire, approximately 35 km south-west of Ballarat. The nearest townships are Skipton and Linton, approximately 5 km to the west and east of the Project site, respectively.

Referral form & supporting studies submission

Upload your completed [referral form](#) and any additional supporting information such as relevant technical studies.

NOTE: Under Referral documents, you must upload:

- A signed copy of a **covering letter** to the Minister for Planning, explicitly referring the project under the EE Act for a decision on the need for an EES
- The completed **referral form** (completed in MS Word and not handwritten)

Referral documents

Attachment 01_MHWF EES Referral Figures.pdf
Attachment 09_MHWF Preliminary Hydrology Assessment.pdf
Attachment 12_MHWF Preliminary Socio-Economic Baseline.pdf
Attachment 10_MHWF Preliminary Planning Report.pdf
MHWF EES REFERRAL FINAL.docx
Attachment 18_MHWF EES Self Assessment.pdf
Attachment 11_MHWF Traffic Impact Assessment.pdf
Attachment 04_MHWF Environmental Noise Assessment.pdf
Attachment 06_MHWF Historical Heritage Assessment.pdf
Attachment 08_MHWF Aviation Assessment.pdf
Attachment 14_MHWF Shadow Flicker Assessment.pdf
Attachment 15_MHWF Fire Safety and Risk Assessment.pdf
Attachment 02_MHWF Ecological Assessment.pdf
Attachment 03_MHWF Preliminary Landscape & Visual Assessment.pdf
Attachment 07_MHWF Geotechnical Assessment.pdf
Attachment 13_MHWF Electromagnetic Interference assessment.pdf
Attachment 16_MHWF Stakeholder Engagement Plan.pdf
MHWF_EES Referral Cover Letter_20241502.pdf
Attachment 03A_MHWF PLVIA Appendix A Dwelling Analysis.pdf
Attachment 03B_MHWF PLVIA Appendix B Viewpoint Analysis.pdf
Attachment 03C_MHWF PLVIA Appendix C Photomontage Public Viewpoints.pdf
Attachment 17_MHWF Consultation and Engagement Report.pdf

Cultural Heritage documents

Attachment 05A_MHWF CHMP Additional Information.pdf
Attachment 05_MHWF CHMP Desktop Assessment.pdf

Declarations & privacy

Applicant declaration

I confirm that the information contained in this form is, to my knowledge, true and not misleading.

Privacy collection notice

The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) is committed to protecting your privacy. Any personal information collected, handled, stored, or disclosed about you through our services shall be managed in accordance with the principles of the Privacy & Data Protection Act 2014 as applicable, and as required by other privacy laws.

Personal information is “information or an opinion (including information or an opinion which is on a database), whether true or not, and whether recorded in a material form or not, about an individual whose identity is apparent, or can reasonably be ascertained from the information or opinion”.

We collect and use your information when it is necessary to fulfil our functions or engage in related activities, and to collect any information required to administer it or provide services associated with it. We use the information provided to assess any submitted requests. All information is required in order to enable DTP to assess your request efficiently.

Information collected through this program may be shared with our employees who need access to it as part of their duties for the reasons set out above. Where necessary, we may disclose your information to relevant officers in DTP, other Government agencies or Ministers directly involved in the planning process or to authorised third party service providers who assist us by performing functions or activities on our behalf, including to survey you about your experience with DTP.

For information about how we handle the information we collect about you, please refer to our [Privacy Policy](#). You also have a right to access any personal information we hold and may ask us to update or correct your personal information.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact the Impact Assessment Unit at ees.referrals@delwp.vic.gov.au