

WESTWIND ENERGY PTY LTD

ABN 94 109 132 201

Gisborne Head Office

Address: Office 5, Level 1
Nexus Centre,
12-14 Prince Street
Gisborne VIC 3437

Telephone: 03 5421 9999



11 December 2023

Hon. Sonya Kilkenny MP
Minister for Planning
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
8 Nicholson Street
East Melbourne
VIC 3002

Via email: Sonya.Kilkenny@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Minister Kilkenny,

Re: Wilkur Energy Park – Referral under the *Environment Effects Act 1978*

WestWind Energy (WWE) is pleased to submit the Wilkur Energy Park (the **Project**) under *section 8(3) of the Environment Effects Act 1978* to determine whether an Environment Effects Statement (**EES**) should be prepared.

The Project is a landmark renewable energy proposal consisting of up to 97 wind turbine generators (**WTGs**) of approximately 776 megawatts (**MW**) of installed capacity with an expected generation of 2,600 gigawatt hours (**GWh**) per annum. This is enough electricity to power more than 500 000 Victorian homes while abating more than 2.1 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually.

The Project has support from the local community and will meet 5% of Victoria's annual electricity demand. The Project will contribute to Victoria's Renewable Energy Target to achieve 65% renewable energy by 2030 and net zero by 2050.

The Project is located approximately 25 kilometres northeast of Warracknabeal township and is located within both the Shires of Yarriambiack and Buloke. Under the Farming Zone in clause 35.07-1 of the Victoria Planning Provisions, a planning permit is now required for a dwelling within one kilometre from the nearest title boundary of the subject land.

WWE will seek to provide a completed EES Referral Form and meet with the Impact Assessment Unit (IAU) of the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) shortly. In addition to this, WWE will write to both municipalities to inform them of our EES Referral to you and that additional planning permit triggers for dwellings in proximity to the Project are required.

Please find the following link to the details of the Project including the community benefit fund which seeks to provide \$194,000 a year for a range of community based initiatives:

<https://w-wind.com.au/project/wilkur-energy-park/>

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me on 03 5421 9999 or our planning advisor, Rachael Joiner on 0417 581 783 or via email at bunjilplanning@gmail.com.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Geiger".

TOBI GEIGER
MANAGING DIRECTOR

CC: GEOFF RALPHS – DIRECTOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT
MICHAEL JUTTNER – MANAGER RENEWABLES
MATTHEW SACCO – DIRECTOR (DEECA)

Attachment A – Project Area Plan