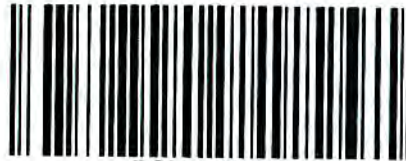




Industry &
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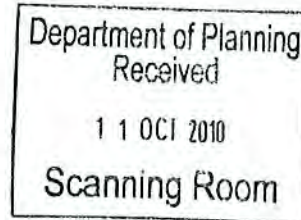


PCU015380

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

V10/2870

Mr Neville Osborne
Manager – Water and Energy
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001



6 - OCT 2010

Dear Mr Osborne

Re: Collector Wind Farm Request for Environmental Assessment Requirements

Thank you for your letter of 20 September 2010 concerning the preliminary environmental assessment of the Collector Wind Farm. I am pleased to attach for your consideration a list of key issues identified.

I look forward to reviewing the completed environmental assessment documentation in due course.

Yours sincerely

RICHARD SHELDRAKE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Agriculture issues

A wind farm can comfortably coexist with existing grazing activities at the sites proposed for wind farms. The following issues need to be addressed to minimise the effects on agriculture:

- Adequate mitigation measures for the control of soil erosion and dust, generated from soil disturbance associated with constructing trenches for electrical cables, construction of building pads for associated outbuildings and internal access roads.
- Livestock management measures to ensure that livestock cannot wander onto public roads and are excluded from construction areas which could cause them harm. Trenched areas would be one such area.
- Containment of any substances from any proposed substation to ensure that the contamination of pasture and dams does not occur.
- Mitigation measures for managing weeds will be required to be detailed particularly as they will most likely be introduced from trucks and any imported soils. Weeds will take hold on disturbed soil areas, particularly on access roads and disturbed sites for cabling and other associated development. Those areas will need particular attention.

Fisheries issues

Industry & Investment NSW (I&I NSW) is responsible for ensuring that fish populations including threatened species are conserved and that there is “no net loss” of key fish habitats upon which they depend. To achieve this, the Department ensures that developments comply with the requirements of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*

(namely the aquatic habitat protection and threatened species conservation provisions

In Parts 7 and 7A of the Act respectively) and the associated *Policy and Guidelines for Aquatic Habitat Management and Fish Conservation (1999)*. In addition the Department is responsible for ensuring the sustainable management of commercial and recreational fishing and aquaculture within NSW.

It appears from the Preliminary Environmental Assessment that the proposed wind farm turbine facilities themselves will have little impact on the aquatic environments within the proposed development site.

However the issues of the proposed access tracks have the potential to have significant impacts on aquatic habitats and fish passage. The Environmental Assessment must assess the impacts of these access roads on aquatic habitats and riparian vegetation.

Assessment of the existing aquatic habitats and the impact of the proposal on them, mitigation measures and proposed monitoring program.

I&I NSW require the adequate assessment of existing fish and fish habitat within the study area, which are affected by the proposed development. This should include aquatic habitat assessment of all Class 1-3 watercourses (classification of watercourses as per I&I NSW classification given in the policy documents mentioned above) and provide an indication of the potential impacts from this development on fish and fish habitat. The assessment should also outline the importance of the waterway and associated fish and fish habitat within the catchment area.

It is recommended that the assessment should document any existing blockages to fish passage (whether full or partial) within each Class 1-3 watercourses location

which may impact on the design of crossing structures, or mitigation measures adopted during the project.

The impacts of the new road proposals should address any impacts on the hydrology of the floodplain as the structure may impact on fish passage and connectivity of habitats during a flood event.

The proponent must also consider the significance of the impacts of the development on threatened species listed under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

Predictions regarding the extent and type of impact on fish, fish habitat and fish passage associated with the project should be clearly stated and quantified. This should include the types of mitigation measures and an assessment of the monitoring that will be undertaken to ensure that impact is no larger than that predicted.

Licenses and Permits

The applicants will need to obtain a permit under the *Fisheries Management Act* or the *Water Management Act 1994* if there is to be any excavation within, or filling of the waterway. This may include excavation to install the culverts or waterway crossings.

A permit may be required to temporarily or permanently block fish passage under *section 219 of the Fisheries Management Act 1994*. Such works may include the bunding of waterways during bridge or culvert construction, use of silt fences across waterways and other similar works. The Environmental Assessment should describe the type and extent of such works within the proposed development.

Fish passage

All watercourse crossings (including temporary crossings and permanent bridge, box and pipe culverts) must be designed in accordance with *NSW Fisheries Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings 2003* and *“Why do fish need to cross the road?: Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings 2003*. DPI Fisheries must be consulted during the detailed design phase of all stream crossings on Class 1 – 4 watercourses.

I&I NSW recommends that work in streams be scheduled within dry seasons, during periods of low flow, to minimise impacts on flow and fish passage. Such works should also be concluded as quickly as possible to minimise impacts on fish and fish passage. Timing of works should also take into account the migratory seasons of fish.

Riparian Vegetation

Riparian vegetation stabilises riverbanks, contributes organic matter (including large woody debris or snags) and partially filters out waterway pollutants and as such is an integral aquatic habitat component. The degradation of native riparian vegetation along NSW watercourses has been listed as a Key Threatening Process under the threatened species schedules of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

I&I NSW requests that the Environmental assessment address proposed methods to carry out rehabilitation works for any streams (existing or creek diversions) and riverbanks disturbed during the development and any degraded riparian vegetation zones within the study site with native, endemic riparian vegetation. Details of the landscape plans including location of the plantings, plant species, sources of plants and numbers should be provided.

Minerals Issues

The proposed Collector Wind Farm lies within the Lachlan Fold Belt, and is within a region which is known to contain prospective mineralisation. Mineralisation occurs within the late Silurian Campbells Group, which is a sedimentary siliciclastic suite of rocks, which outcrops in the eastern quarter of the subject area (refer to Figure 1). The Campbells Group of rocks is considered to be moderately to highly prospective for gold and base metals.

Many mineral occurrences have been identified within the Campbells Group of rocks, confirming its high mineral potential. Additionally, significant mineral deposits have been identified in proximity to the proposal area within this rock formation, for example:

- The Wet Lagoon South Prospect (a sub economic VHMS style deposit, located just north of the Hume Highway),
- The Breadalbane No.1 Prospect is located approximately 2.7 kilometers north of the Hume Highway, where limonite is currently being mined at the Breadalbane Ironstone Quarry.

The general region has been, and will continue to be, of interest to companies for mineral resources exploration. Several exploration licences (ELs) exist to the east of the wind farm proposal area, and two ELs overlap slightly with the eastern boundary of the subject area (EL 6686, held by Tri Origin Mining Pty Ltd and EL 7388, held by Centrex Metals Ltd).

Details of current exploration licences in and around the project area can be obtained through the Department's website at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals>. The online TASMAR application permits the user to search, display, query and download up-to-date NSW mining and exploration title maps and related information.

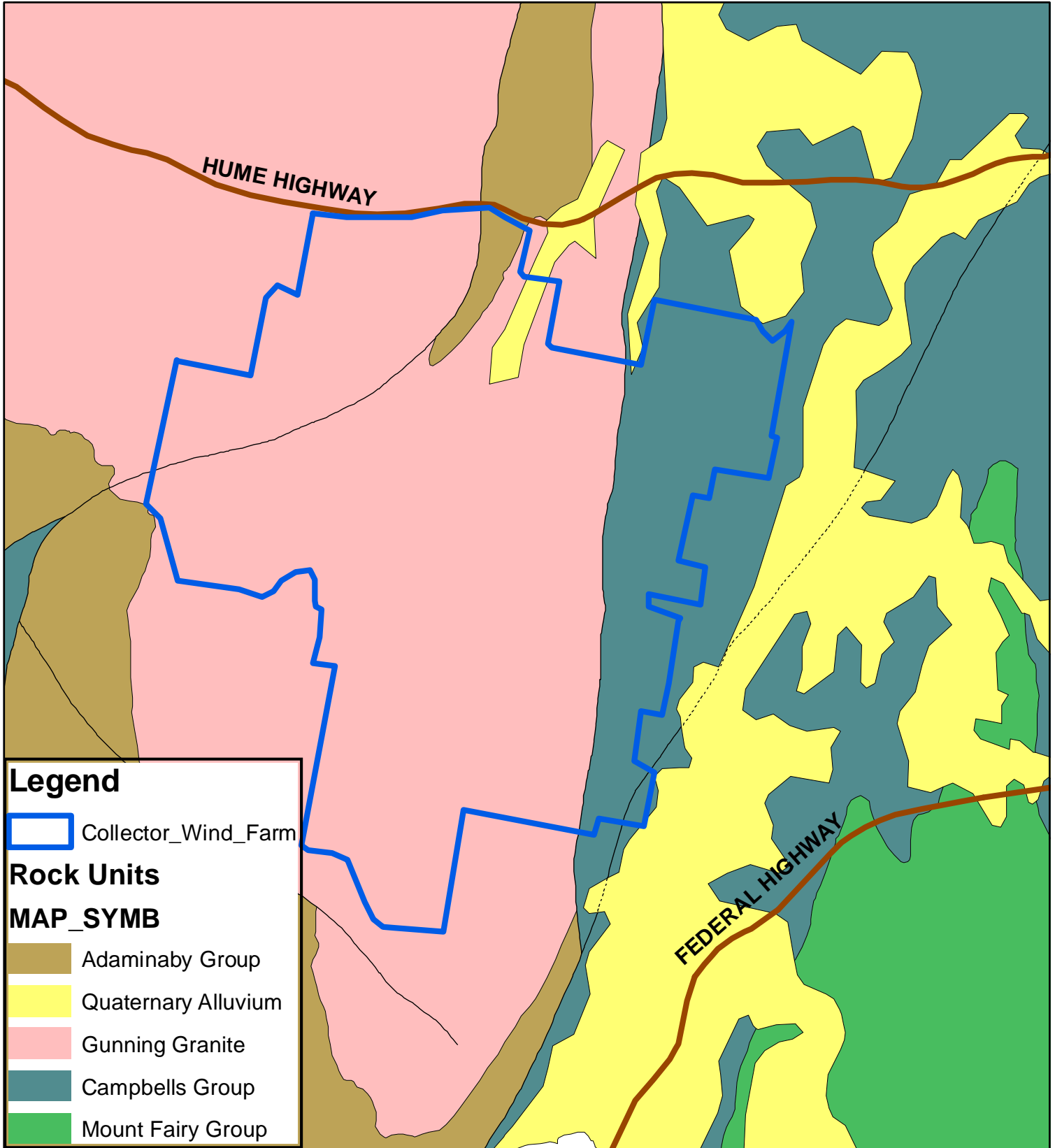
The key issue that should be addressed in the EA is the impact of the project on mineral exploration and mining. The proposal has the potential to significantly impact upon the capacity to undertake mineral exploration and possible future mining in the project area by imposing constraints to land access associated with wind turbines, power lines and other infrastructure this may limit future.

The wind farm proposal need not necessarily negatively impact upon mineral exploration provided that it incorporates measures to ensure that continued access for mineral exploration, including possible drilling, is not unduly constrained. Detailed assessments of the geology and mineral potential of all turbine and ancillary infrastructure sites should be undertaken prior to construction.

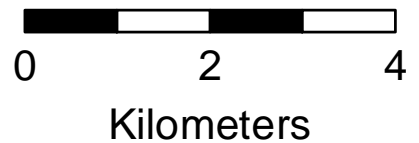
The proponent should consult with exploration licence holders concerning their planned exploration activities and the potential impacts of the wind farm on exploration and possible future mining operations. Further consultation with the exploration licence holders and I&I NSW – Minerals branch should be undertaken prior to finalisation of the proposed locations of turbines and infrastructure.

Two small gravel pits have been operated at some stage within the proposal subject area. The current status of these sites is uncertain.

Figure 1 - Geology with relation to the Collector Wind Farm Proposal



Industry &
Investment



DATE: 6 October 2010
Officer: Simon Francis



Land & Property
Management Authority
Crown Lands

Major Infrastructure Assessment
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney
NSW 2001



159 Auburn Street Goulburn NSW 2580
PO Box 748, Goulburn NSW 2580
Phone: (02) 4824 3700
Fax: (02) 4822 4287
Website: www.lands.nsw.gov.au

Date 5/10/10

Ref:
Our Reference:
Your Reference: 10/02379

**Subject: Proposed Wind Farm
Collector
Major Project No. 10_0156**

The Land and Property Management Authority (LPMA) has reviewed the Preliminary Environmental Assessment for the proposed development of a wind farm at Collector, NSW (17 September 2010).

The LPMA has the following comments in regards to the above:

The LPMA has identified parcels of Crown Land that maybe affected by the proposed development.

The information supplied does not imply or allow presumption of the concurrence of the Minister of Lands.

The information supplied is given so that a full investigation of the development proposal may proceed under environmental planning laws.

Crown Public Roads

Crown public roads generally provide lawful access to freehold and leasehold land. These roads are part of the State's public road network, and the majority have not been formed or constructed.

It is noted that Crown public roads are located within the proposed Collector Wind Farm project area and therefore the proposed project must not interfere with the public's right to use the Crown public road.

Any works or operational activities associated with the Collector Wind Farm project must not have any effect upon the Crown public roads use and or cause any degradation upon the crown road.

Any works or operational activities that have an affect upon Crown roads need to be dealt with in accordance with the Roads Act 1993. The LPMA s' approval for these works should be part of an integrated development approval process in accordance with Section 91 of the EP&A Act.

Integrated approval or any other approval by the LPMA will require the proponent to obtain consent under Section 138 of the Roads Act for any works on Crown roads and this will be

provided by means a licence to authorise the formation of access tracks and the installation of underground cables or any other works on or across Crown roads. The normal fees and market rent will apply to any such licence granted.

CROWN ROADS – Closing and Purchase

An adjoining owner to a Crown road may apply for a road closing application. Ownership of these lands may only be obtained by way of lodgement of a road closing application with the LPMA by the applicant in the first instance. Approval in principal will be given if there are no valid objections and a further road purchase application is then required to be lodged in order to purchase the land within the road. **Unfortunately, no guarantees as to the outcome of the road closing process can be given until submissions have been assessed.**

Waterways

According to LPMA's records, sections of waterways have been identified as Crown Lands at various locations within the Collector Wind Farm Project Area.

- Frankfield Creek
- Hume Creek
- Sandy Creek
- Boheara Creek
- Lerida Creek

All current access points to the waterways must remain and be available.

Any works and operational activities must not impact on the bed and bank of the waterway or affect flows to or within the waterway.

Any disturbance must be rehabilitated to an original condition that is to the satisfaction of LPMA, to ensure that there is no long term impact upon crown waterways and adjoining riparian zones.

Any access or disturbance to the Crown waterways within the proposed area must have the approval of LPMA.

Crown Reserves

Numerous Crown Reserves have been identified by LPMA within the proposed area.

Any construction and operational activities must not have any impact upon the reserves or their purposes.

All current access points to and from these reserves must remain available.

- Reserve 17318 Lot 7003 DP 94490 for trigonometrical purposes. The Office of Surveyor General of NSW should also be contacted and approval sort to ensure that the proposed Collector Wind Farm does not have an impact on their operations of the Trigonometrical Reserve.

Any works located on or within Trigonometrical Reserve will require:

- a) Consent of the Surveyor General; and
- b) A licence under the Crown Lands Act 1989. Works other than low impact acts will require a non-claimant application for determination of Native title to be lodged via the Native Title Tribunal and dealt with by the Federal Court because it is unlikely that native title has been extinguished.

- Reserve 198 Lot 7002 DP 94461 for water supply.
- Reserve 530137 Lot 66 DP 754127 as a dedication for public school site.

Native Title

No assessment of the impacts of the Native Title Act (Commonwealth) on the proposed Collector Wind Farm project has been undertaken. This assessment must be undertaken (in conjunction with LPMA) prior to any works and or activities commencing.

Aboriginal Land Claims

According to LPMA's, Goulburn office records the following Aboriginal Land claims are current incomplete applicants as of the above date that within the proposed area of operations:

Claim numbers

- ALC 9498;

The Aboriginal Land claim will need to be addressed prior to any works or activities can be authorised by LPMA.

The proponent should ensure that no other Aboriginal Land claims are pending.

General Land Management

The proposed Collector Wind Farm over the crown land has been assessed and no significant vegetation is located within these parcels of land and or apparent land management issues.

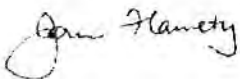
This does not negate the proponents responsibilities to ascertain and adhere to all the requirements/ conditions of all other authorities over the parcels of Crown land.

The proponent should also understand that if the Crown Land is impacted in any way, the LPMA would be seeking compensation to recover any costs.

Further investigations may be required upon development of the Environmental Assessment and finalised Preferred Project Report relating to and construction and operations of the Collector Wind Farm. In this regards, but is not restricted to, native title, aboriginal land claims, acquisition and easement, access, rehabilitation and other information deemed necessary by the LPMA may be required.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact this Office at the above address.

Yours sincerely,



John Flarrey
Program Manager
Land Administration (East)



Australian Government

Department of Defence
Defence Support Group

AF10424312
ELP/OUT/40/2012

Chris Thompson
APP Corporation Pty Limited
PO Box 1573
NORTH SYDNEY, NSW, 2059

Dear Mr Thompson

RE: Collector Wind Farm, New South Wales

Thank you for advising the Department of Defence (Defence) of the proposed Collector wind farm to be situated in the NSW Southern Tablelands along the Cullerin Range. Defence understands the wind farm is to consist of 68 wind turbine generators with maximum blade tip heights of 150m above ground level.

Defence has assessed the proposal for potential impacts to operations in the area. This includes the safety of low flying military aircraft, as well as affects to Defence communications, and surveillance radars. Defence advises that the Collector wind farm will not cause any unacceptable interference to Defence communications or surveillance radars. For aircraft safety purposes, Defence recommends that the colour used for the turbines ensure that they are conspicuous to aircraft during daylight hours.

There is an ongoing need to obtain and maintain accurate information about tall structures so that risks associated with inadvertent collision by low flying aircraft can be reduced. The RAAF Aeronautical Information Service (RAAF AIS) is responsible for recording the location and height of tall structures. The information is held in a central database managed by RAAF AIS and relates to the erection, extension or dismantling of tall structures the top measurement of which is:

- a. 30 metres or more above ground level - within 30 kilometres of an aerodrome, or
- b. 45 metres or more above ground level elsewhere.

The proposed wind turbines will meet the above definition of a tall structure. Defence requests that the proponent provide RAAF AIS with "as constructed" details of the wind farm. RAAF AIS has a web site with a Vertical Obstruction Report Form at www.raafais.gov.au/obstr_form.htm which can be used to enter the location and height details of tall structures.

Should you wish to discuss the content of this advice further, my point of contact is Mr. Gary Lee on telephone (02) 6266 8187.

Yours sincerely



Matt Dopson

A/Director External Land Planning

BP3-1-A052

Department of Defence

CANBERRA ACT 2600

8 May 2012

Transfield Services Pty Ltd
c/o APP Corporation
Level 6, 53 Berry Street
North Sydney NSW 2060
Telephone 02 9963 9924
Mobile 0417 219 465
Email: valentinen@transfieldservices.com



Ref: 125669/230303/03.01

16 September 2010

[REDACTED]
Upper Lachlan Shire Council
PO Box 10
Crookwell NSW 2583

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

COLLECTOR WIND FARM PROPOSAL

I am writing to you on behalf of Transfield Services to advise you of progress on the Collector Wind Farm project and to invite you to attend a Community Open House on 14 October at the Collector Memorial Hall between 3pm and 8pm.

Transfield Services Pty Ltd is a leading international provider of operations, maintenance, asset management and project management services. It operates in Australia, New Zealand, the United States, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, South East Asia, India and Canada across diverse industries including mining and process, hydrocarbons, roads, rail and public transport, water, power, telecommunications, facilities management and defence.

Transfield Services owns three operating wind farms (Starfish Hill, SA; Toora, VIC; and Windy Hill, QLD) and has a development portfolio of 11 projects with the potential to produce approximately 1,000 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy. Transfield Services' development portfolio includes the Collector Wind Farm project, near Goulburn. The company is currently examining the feasibility of developing a wind farm at Collector with a capacity of approximately 160MW, comprising between 60 and 80 wind turbine generators.

Transfield Services representatives previously met with Council's General Manager and Director of Environment and Planning in late 2009 to introduce the project. Informal communications have been maintained in the interim.

Transfield Services has commenced the development approval process, with the Department of Planning declaring the proposal a Major Project, requiring assessment under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. The company recently submitted a Major Project Application to the Department - together with a Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) - and awaits receipt of the Director-General's environmental assessment requirements. The PEA (attached) provides background information on the project; however should you require further information please contact me using the details above.

Transfield Services is committed to transparent, informative and responsive community engagement. I have attached here Issue 1 of our Project Newsletter which will shortly, with Council's assistance, be forwarded to all residents within a 5km radius of the wind farm site. Following the Open House we will issue a Q&A document to the community responding to issues raised at the forum. Further, we propose to hold a second Open House at the time of submission of the environmental assessment, which is scheduled for the end of this year. In the

interim we will maintain a two-way dialogue with the community and other stakeholders. I will be available on the numbers and email above for one-on-one consultation with interested or concerned individuals and we will also be available for face-to-face meetings if requested.

We propose to give due consideration to Council's Wind Farm DCP in our environmental assessment and we are also in the process of developing our community investment program. Key to the design of this program will be the views of Council and the local community and we look forward to some constructive dialogue in this regard.

I hope that you may have the opportunity to attend the Open House. We also hope to have an opportunity to make a formal presentation to Council on the project in the near future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Valentine', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

NICK VALENTINE
Project Manager

Transfield Services Pty Ltd
c/o APP Corporation
116 Miller Street
North Sydney NSW 2060

Phone 02 9963 9924
Email: valentinen@transfieldservices.com



21 September 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED COLLECTOR WIND FARM PROJECT

I am writing to you on behalf of Transfield Services to introduce the proposed Collector Wind Farm project and invite you to attend a Community Open House - at Collector Memorial Hall on Thursday 14 October from 3:00pm to 8:00pm - to contribute your views on this renewable energy proposal.

The 160 megawatt Collector Wind Farm would involve the installation of between 60 and 80 wind turbines on the hills between Collector and Gunning with the potential to supply renewable energy equivalent to the annual needs of 80,000 NSW homes.

The wind farm site is bounded by the Hume Highway, Collector Road and Collector Creek. As a neighbouring landowner we are very interested in hearing your views on our proposal. This will allow us to develop a project that is not only acceptable to the local community, but also provides for the optimal long-term use of the area's renewable energy resource.

Transfield Services is hosting a Community Open House to introduce the project to local residents and gain community input on landscape values and other environmental aspects of the project. The meeting outcomes will contribute to the project design and guide the environmental assessment process.

Transfield Services will shortly commence a detailed environmental assessment of the impacts of the wind farm on the physical and human environment. To date, preliminary studies have been undertaken on flora and fauna, landscape values, noise, and Aboriginal and European heritage, the results of which will be available at the Community Open House for your information. Enclosed with this letter is Issue 1 of our Project Newsletter, which provides further information on the project.

The Community Open House will be held at the Collector Memorial Hall on Thursday 14 October from 3:00pm to 8:00pm. Transfield Services representatives will be available during this time to discuss the project with you one-on-one. Poster displays on various aspects of the project will also be available for your information, so please drop in any time. Should you wish to contact me to discuss the project in the meantime, or if you are unable to make the open house, please call me on (02) 9963 9924 or email me at valentinen@transfieldservices.com.

Yours sincerely



NICK VALENTINE
Project Manager

Partners for Change



Collector Wind Farm

Upper Lachlan Shire Council – 21 October 2010

Transfield Services – Wind Portfolio



- **Operating wind farms**
 - Windy Hill, QLD (12 MW)
 - Toora, VIC (21 MW)
 - Starfish Hill, SA (35 MW)
- **Development portfolio**
 - 11 sites across WA, SA, VIC, NSW and QLD
 - Projects at various stages of development
 - Ongoing portfolio assessment moved Collector into Feasibility Study phase

Collector Wind Farm – Outline



■ The Site

- Cleared agricultural land between Collector and Gunning
- Low population base - only 2 residences within 2km of turbines
- Excellent wind resource

■ Wind Farm Characteristics

- Approximately 160 MW
- 60 to 80 wind turbine generators
- Capital cost approximately \$400 million

■ Grid Connection

- 330kV line traverses the site
- Minimal transmission line

Planning Approval Process



■ Part 3A Process

- Dept of Planning Part 3A declaration – February 2010
- Major Project Application - 7 September 2010
- Preliminary Environmental Assessment prepared
- Director-General's Requirements – October 2010

■ Authority Consultation

- Agency consultation commenced
- No Planning Focus Meeting

■ Upper Lachlan Shire Council

- Review and address Wind Farms DCP in EA document

Collector – Technical Studies



■ Ecology

- Limited clearance of native vegetation required
- Patches of important ecological communities present at the site
- Some threatened species recorded locally

■ Noise

- Background noise assessment completed
- Wind farm design response to achieve compliance

■ Visual

- Preliminary landscape assessment completed
- One photomontage prepared for Community Open House
- Detailed visual assessment commenced

Collector – Technical Studies (cont.)



- **Aboriginal & European Heritage**
 - Cultural heritage assessment commenced
 - Consultation with local Aboriginal Communities required
- **Aviation Safety**
 - Impact on nearby aerodromes and airspace to be re-assessed
 - Obstacle lighting subject to CASA discussions
- **Telecommunications**
 - Wind farm design response to avoid comms paths
- **Traffic & Transport**
 - Assessment commenced in accordance with DGRs

Community Engagement



- **Commitment to Community Engagement**
 - Early engagement – start of Part 3A process
 - Open and transparent – multiple methods of engagement
 - Timely feedback – Q&A response, individual follow-up
 - Community benefits – community investment program
 - Conflict resolution – direct engagement with concerned parties
- **Multiple Engagement Methods**
 - Project Newsletter – Intro/Milestones to 5km radius residents
 - Community Open House – at project inception and prior to Part 3A public exhibition
 - Website - windfarms.net.au

Timetable



- Targeting Part 3A approval this financial year
- Technical studies October-December 2010
- Environmental Assessment submitted prior to Christmas
- Portfolio decision to be taken by Transfield Services Board following Part 3A approval



THANK YOU



Partners for Change