



Office of the Director General

Mr Andrew Durran
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Our ref.: MP10_0117

Dear Mr Durran

**Subject: Supplementary Director-General's Requirements for Birrema Wind Farm
MP10_0117**

I refer to the Director-General's requirements which were issued for the above project on 23 August 2010.

These requirements specify that the community must be consulted during the preparation of the Environmental Assessment and relevant issues must be addressed in the document.

It is clear from submissions being received by the Department that many members of the community are not satisfied with the level and nature of consultation being undertaken by proponents during the preparation of wind farm environmental assessment documents.

I wish to emphasise the importance of effective and genuine community consultation and the need for proposals to proactively respond to the community's concerns.

Accordingly, under section 75F(3) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*, I am issuing supplementary requirements which must be addressed in the preparation of your Environmental Assessment. These requirements are:

1. a comprehensive, detailed and genuine community consultation and engagement process must be undertaken. This process must ensure that the community is both informed of the proposal and is actively engaged in issues of concern to them, and is given ample opportunity to provide its views on the proposal. Sufficient information must be provided to the community so that it has a good understanding of what is being proposed and of the impacts. There should be a particular focus on those non wind farm associated community members who live in proximity to the site;
2. the Environmental Assessment must clearly document and provide details and evidence of the consultation process and who was consulted with;
3. all issues raised during the consultation process must be clearly identified and tabulated in the Environmental Assessment; and
4. the Environmental Assessment must state how the identified issues have been addressed, and how they have informed the proposal as presented in the

Environmental Assessment. In particular, the Environmental Assessment must state how the community's issues have been responded to.

I wish to emphasise that the Department will review compliance with these, and other, requirements during its adequacy review of the Environmental Assessment. If it does not adequately respond to these requirements it will not be accepted as adequate for public exhibition.

Your contact officer for this proposal, Anna Timbrell, can be contacted on (02) 9228-6345 or via email at anna.timbrell@planning.nsw.gov.au. Please mark all correspondence regarding the proposal to the attention of the contact officer.

Yours sincerely,



Sam Haddad
Director-General

16/8/2011