

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 September 2016 12:41 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Annette Madayag 6167

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 September 2016 12:42 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Yours faithfully, Anna Harpley 2784

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Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW. This is especially important at a time when the federal government is reducing funding to ARENA and climate deniers are in the senate. There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

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Yours faithfully, Gillian Wilde 2537

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 September 2016 6:41 PM  
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Yours faithfully, Margaret-Ann Hamilton 2790

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Yours faithfully, Sue Maxwell 2290

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Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Susanna Cheng 2060

[REDACTED]  
Cooks Hill

NSW 2300  
[REDACTED]

## Planning Framework for Wind Farms

Individual submission from Ben Ewald. 22-9-16.

NSW has the opportunity to take part in the growth of the wind energy industry, but there is a risk that if the planning process is made difficult the opportunity created by the RET will be taken up by projects in other states and NSW will miss out. This will be to the detriment of the NSW economy, and will be inefficient due to increased transmission losses as power is delivered from Victoria and SA.

The proposed visual impact rules are too restrictive and create planning uncertainty. They give too much weight to visual impact. Eight 8 km is an excessive distance to consider visual effects, and two km would be more suitable. Nobody owns their view. The visual problem of shade flicker is however important, but can be dealt with by proper turbine management.

I have seen wind farms all over the landscape in Europe and do not consider them a visual problem. In particular the beautiful city of Copenhagen that takes great care of it's heritage, has a row of large wind turbines just off shore that do not seem to bother anybody.

Lake Macquarie on the other hand often has a layer of thick yellow haze from its coal fired power stations, and wind energy is part of the solution to that visual problem.

I am pleased to see that the bogus health claims about wind farms have been correctly dealt with.

I trust that NSW can adopt regulations that do not impede this important new industry.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
16 September 2016

**PLEASE DO NOT PUBLISH MY NAME**

Director  
Industry and Infrastructure Policy  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

[www.windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:www.windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Director

**Submission - Wind Energy Framework**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide commentary on the draft Wind Energy Framework which is currently on exhibition.

With the increased interest in renewable energy projects, it is certainly time to replace the draft 2011 wind farm guidelines with a clear and workable document to assist the community and proponents with Wind Energy Projects.

The draft documentation is well prepared and covers all the necessary information required to assist in the preparation and assessment of these State Significant Developments.

As an Independent Chairperson, I am able to comment that the main issues of concern from the community are:

- Devaluation of property values
- Noise from the wind turbines
- Potential health issues
- Non-compensation for 'affected' land owners.

I see all too often, generations of families/farmers, become adversaries due to host land owners receiving monetary compensation, whilst neighbours receive nothing, however, still have to endure alleged visual landscape blight, potential noise offence and potential impacts on health.

It is therefore imperative that EARLY meaningful communication with possible and probably affected property owners and residents be instigated at the very first instant. Accordingly, my main comments relate to Section 5. Community and stakeholder consultation:



ISSUE	COMMENT
4.4 Assessment and determination	Suggest include "planting as a buffer for noise and visual impacts".
5.2 When and whom to consult	Not just individual land holders, but also consultation with community groups, environmental groups, stakeholders (business chambers, local government, etc)
5.3.4 Shared benefits and negotiated agreements	Whilst 'benefit sharing' provides advantages for the community, this can be often difficult in remote regions, where there aren't opportunities. Therefore these isolated communities see the funds used in more densely occupied areas that are not "affected" by the project.
5.3.4 Shared benefits and negotiated agreements	Contributions for Infrastructure – who owns this asset and who is responsible for its ongoing maintenance, especially with the project has been decommissioned?
5.3.4 Shared benefits and negotiated agreements	Should the proponent and landholder be unable to agree to a Negotiated Agreement, who mediates this matter?
5.4 Example of consultation model Scoping & pre-lodgement	Include: Discuss the exhibition process; opportunity to comment.
5.4 Example of consultation model EIS Preparation	I suggest you add at the end of "Establish and operate a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) <a href="#">and hold regular meetings.</a>
5.4 Example of consultation model Post-determination	Add into "Ongoing consultation with landholders and the community to manage issues regarding <a href="#">amenity issues, such as</a> construction noise and disturbance.
5.4 Example of consultation model Post-determination	Define "benefit sharing"
6. Post approval regulation	"Person carrying out the development" - include an explanation on "what if the project is sold on to another party".
General Comment	Dictionary of Terminology at the end of the document.

The draft Policy has been very well prepared and appears to cover all relevant issues and therefore I support the documentation in its current form and hope that the Department is able to receive endorsement of the Wind Energy Framework in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

## Submission to the NSW DPE's new Wind Energy Planning Framework from Charlie Prell

I'm Charlie Prell, a farmer who owns land under the proposed Crookwell Wind Farm, and also an organiser for the Australian Wind Alliance. You should know that I will have 2 x 150 metre high turbines about 450 metres from my home when this wind farm is built! That prospect doesn't concern me at all.

- I applaud the Department for taking steps to quantify the visual aspect of wind turbines on a schematic basis. I emphasise this is a schematic basis, not a scientific basis. It is impossible to quantify landscape on a scientific basis because the value of any landscape is defined by the perception of the viewer. This perception varies widely. It is critical to remember that the overwhelming majority of people who look at wind turbines see them as a positive addition to the landscape, not as a "blight" on the landscape. How do you quantify the perception of the viewer? If a viewer doesn't like the look of wind turbines it doesn't matter how close or far away they are, 1 km or 10 kms.
- The Visual Impact Assessment Bulletin indicates assessment of cumulative impacts out to 8 kms is required. This distance is excessive and should be reduced to a maximum of 4 kms, as per the chart in the document. As I just said, if viewers don't like the look of wind turbines then it doesn't matter if they are 1 km away or 10 kms away, the attitude of the viewer most probably won't change.
- Of course the turbines alter the character of the landscape, and may alter people's enjoyment of this landscape.
  - 1) The landscape has been altered for the entire history of this continent, including by indigenous peoples well before European settlement. It will continue to be altered now and in the future.
  - 2) Climate change will be one of the greatest "alterers" of this landscape.
  - 3) Turbines assist in reducing our carbon emissions and so mitigate the effects of climate change and hence can have a very positive impact on the landscape. Wind turbines generate renewable energy on an industrial scale, but they also give most viewers a real sense of hope and confidence for the future.
  - 4) The turbines will become a natural part of a contemporary landscape in the same way that high-rise buildings, freeways, power lines, sheds, houses and farm infrastructure have in the past.

As your document states, "Assessment of these impacts is a complex endeavour." You have my best wishes as you undertake that complex assessment!!

- I wonder how this policy would work if it was used to assess coal mines? I suspect that there may have never been a coal mine approved in NSW if these visual impact assessment guidelines had been in force for coal mines!
- Please remember that wind turbines are improving the economic base of farming and rural communities such as Crookwell. These communities are heavily reliant on viable agriculture and when farmers are doing well these communities prosper. Wind turbines are a permitted development on rural land and should be encouraged, not resisted.

Charlie Prell  
"Savannah"

████████████████████  
CROOKWELL  
NSW 2583  
████████████████████

Department of Planning and Environment,  
Attention: Felicity Greenway,  
Director, Industry and Infrastructure Policy,  
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001

By email: [windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au)

16<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Ms Greenway,

## **Submission on the NSW Draft Wind Energy Planning Framework**

Union Fenosa Wind Australia Pty Ltd (**UFWA**) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission on the NSW Draft *Wind Energy Planning Framework* (**Draft Framework**).

### **Background**

UFWA is a subsidiary of a Spanish utility called Global Power Generation (**GPG**) that is dedicated to international power generation projects and currently manages an installed capacity of over 2,800 MW. GPG is a subsidiary of the Gas Natural Fenosa Group (**GNF Group**) that is one of the leading multinational companies in the gas and electricity sectors. GNF Group operates in over 30 countries, and supplies gas and electricity to more than 23 million customers. With approximately 15.4 GW of installed power generating capacity, GNF Group has a long history of successful renewable energy projects around the world.

UFWA has eight wind farm projects (in development, approved and early construction stages) across NSW and Victoria. This portfolio represents a potential investment of approximately \$2.0 billion in renewable wind energy generation. Once complete, the portfolio would increase Australia's wind generation capacity by over 1,000 MW. In addition, it will result in the creation of several hundred jobs in the construction and operational phases.

UFWA's current NSW wind farm Projects are:

- Crookwell 2 Wind Farm (Approved)
- Crookwell 3 Wind Farm (Proposed)
- Paling Yards Wind Farm (Proposed)

These three NSW projects have the potential to:

- Deliver up to 1.2 Terawatt hours (TWh) of renewable energy each year, which equates to displacing 1.2 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from existing fossil fuel generation;
- Stimulate the economy in their respective local government areas as a result of direct investment, job creation and higher disposable income and expenditure in the region;
- Create up to 240 direct jobs during construction, and up to 30 ongoing operational jobs for the life of the wind farms;
- Contribute \$2,500 per operating turbine per year, to the community enhancement funds established by their respective councils, this equates to ~\$277,500 per year that would be invested in community projects;
- Provide direct benefits to the immediate neighbours of the project site boundary via Neighbour Deeds as part of our voluntary neighbour benefit sharing scheme.

UFWA has a strong commitment to social and environmental issues throughout all aspects of its business. UFWA supports the robust assessment and regulation of wind farms, and is committed to working with regulators to ensure full compliance and the best possible outcomes for the community.

## Key Message

UFWA welcomes the greater certainty which the Draft Framework will provide following the ongoing uncertainty created by the 2011 draft *NSW Planning Guidelines for Wind Farms*.

In particular, UFWA supports aspects of the Draft Framework including:

- the proposed retention of the existing noise limits which apply under the SA EPA 'Wind Farm Environmental Noise Guidelines';
- the recognition given in the Draft Framework to the overwhelming scientific evidence that there are no health impacts arising from wind farms; and

- the micrositing provisions.

However, there are some aspects of the Draft Framework which UFWA submits need to be amended before the Draft Framework is finalised in order to:

- increase investor confidence; and
- enable ongoing renewable energy investment in NSW.

These aspects are identified in the following sections of this submission.

## **1. Draft Wind Energy: Assessment Policy**

### **1.1. The Strategic Context**

UFWA submits that the draft 'Wind Energy: Assessment Policy' (**Draft Assessment Policy**) should include more information on the broad public interest and public policy considerations underpinning renewable energy projects such as wind farms. This includes the important role which wind farms must play in meeting Australia's international obligations and the Australian Renewable Energy Target.

### **1.2. Application to Existing Projects and Applications**

The Draft Assessment Policy contemplates that it will, once published, apply to:

- all applications for development consent for new wind farm projects which have not yet been issued SEARs; and
- all new applications for modifications to existing wind farm projects

The proposed retrospective application of aspects of the Draft Framework to existing wind farm projects is problematic. For example:

- Preliminary Environmental Assessments are not typically prepared for modification applications; and
- the proposed Preliminary Environmental Assessment requirements, including the indicative noise impact assessment' using 'simple modelling tools and conservative assumptions' and an initial visual assessment using 'preliminary screening tools' are inappropriate for already approved projects; and
- approved projects will already have noise limits imposed which may not reflect the detail contained in the Draft Assessment Policy.

UFWA strongly submits that the application of the Draft Assessment Policy should be clarified to address these issues.

### **1.3. The Planning Framework**

There are a number of references throughout the Draft Assessment Policy to the need to obtain landowner consent before lodging planning applications. This does not reflect UFWA's understanding of the current legal requirements which enable:

- landowner notification in certain circumstances; or
- where landowner consent remains required, this to be obtained at any point prior to determination of the planning application.

Similarly, the reference in section 4.4 of the Draft Assessment Policy to 'acquisition requirements' in conditions gives the misleading impression that a wind farm proponent may compulsorily acquire land.

UFWA submits that these issues should be addressed before the Draft Assessment Policy is finalised.

### **1.4. The Assessment Process**

The current description of the assessment process contained in the Draft Assessment Policy does not make clear the decision making approach which must be adopted in determining all NSW planning applications.

The NSW Courts have confirmed in *Warkworth Mining Limited v Bulga Milbrodale Progress Association Inc* [2014] NSWCA 105 and *Taralga Landscape Guardians Inc v Minister for Planning and RES Southern Cross Pty Ltd* [2007] NSWLEC 59 (12 February 2007) (**Taralga Decision**) that:

- that the ultimate task is 'to balance all the relevant matters in determining whether the preferable decision was to approve or disapprove'; and
- in particular, when assessing wind farms, it is necessary to weigh the overall public benefits against any impacts.

UFWA submits that these legal requirements should be appropriately reflected in the Draft Assessment Policy.

### **1.5. Level of Preliminary Environmental Assessment Proposed**

The Draft Assessment Policy proposes to bring forward the assessment of wind farm projects by requiring Preliminary Environmental Assessments lodged in support of a request for SEARs to include:

- detailed turbine layouts and assessments;

- indicative noise impact assessment' using 'simple modelling tools and conservative assumptions'; and
- an initial visual assessment using 'preliminary screening tools' should not be required for already approved projects.

Requiring such a level of information and assessment at such an early stage project stage is highly problematic. This is because wind farm layouts are developed based on wind resource, landholder requirements, community consultation, the results of detailed flora and fauna surveys and noise modelling and constructability assessments. This is an iterative process which results in the wind farm layout evolving significantly through the assessment process. Accordingly:

- the final indicative layout cannot not be known at the time which the PEA is prepared; and
- basing any assessment on such an initial layout is unproductive and will give rise to unnecessary confusion for both the community and regulators as the project develops.

Further, there are significant issues with the proposed 'preliminary screening tools' contained in the draft Wind Energy: Visual Impact Assessment Bulletin (**Draft Visual Bulletin**). Please refer to section 3.1 below for details.

#### 1.6. Benefit Sharing

The Draft Assessment Policy includes as an objective the encouragement of 'benefit-sharing between wind energy operators and the communities in which they operate, where appropriate'. This is also reflected in section 5.3.4 of the Draft Assessment Policy.

UFWA is committed to developing long-term partnerships with the communities in which it operates. However, UFWA submits that it is inappropriate for the Draft Assessment Policy to create a community expectation that benefit sharing will be offered across the board for all wind farm projects. Such an expectation is inconsistent with the approach adopted in assessing other projects and has the potential to significantly undermine the economic viability of NSW wind farm projects

#### 1.7. Negotiated Agreements

The current wording in both section 5.3.4 and Attachment A of the Draft Assessment Policy should be clarified to make it clear that there is no legal

requirement for either wind farm developers or neighbouring landholders to enter into negotiated agreements.

Further, references to additional monitoring and bonds do not reflect market practices and should be deleted.

## **2. Draft Wind Energy: Noise Assessment Bulletin**

### **2.1. Noise Penalties**

UFWA submits that the proposed 'noise penalty' regime outlined in the Draft Wind Energy: Noise Assessment Bulletin (**Draft Noise Bulletin**) for low frequency noise and tonality could unnecessarily constrain renewable energy development.

In particular, the scientific evidence establishes that low frequency noise from wind farms is inaudible and does not pose any health impacts. This is reflected in the 'noise and health' section of the Draft Noise Bulletin. Given this, it is wholly unnecessary and inappropriate to impose any 'noise penalty' for low frequency noise from wind turbines. UFWA submits that the Draft Noise Bulletin should adopt an evidence-based approach which does not include any such noise penalty.

### **2.2. Form of Noise Conditions**

The Department's recent approach to setting noise limits imposes prescriptive dwelling specific and wind speed specific noise limits which are:

- very difficult for the community to understand; and
- extremely time consuming, complex and expensive to monitor.

UFWA submits that the Draft Noise Bulletin should be amended to both:

- make it clear that, going forward, the SA EPA 'Wind Farm Environmental Noise Guideline' limits will be applied to provide a uniform noise limit for all dwellings; and
- include a clear definition of what constitutes a dwelling (which definition should limit 'dwellings' to buildings which are both approved for use as a dwelling and capable of permanent occupation).

## **3. Draft Wind Energy: Visual Impact Assessment Bulletin**

### **3.1. Proposed Preliminary Screening Tools**

The draft Wind Energy: Visual Impact Assessment Bulletin (**Draft Visual Bulletin**) does not provide any form of justification or expert report to underpin the



proposed Visual Magnitude and Multiple Wind Turbine preliminary screening tools.

Indeed, the Draft Visual Bulletin cites a number of resources which are directly contrary to the approach taken in the proposed preliminary screening tools. For example:

- the Draft Visual Bulletin refers to the US Bureau of Land Management (Sullivan, R., et al., 2012a, Wind Turbine Visibility and Visual Impact Threshold Distances in Western Landscapes). This report concluded that 'limited research has been conducted to determine the maximum distance of the visibility of wind turbines or the appropriate distance zones for impact thresholds'; and
- the Scottish Natural Heritage Siting and Designing Wind Farms in the Landscape (Version 2 May 2014) is included as a reference document in the Draft Visual Bulletin. This report states that:

*In the past, several guidance notes offered generic categories of degrees of visibility and visual impact related to distance. This is no longer considered helpful as there is now such variation in turbine size and design.*

UFWA strongly submits that NSW should not adopt visual assessment tools which:

- are not supported by any studies or an evidence based approach;
- do not reflect requirements adopted anywhere else in the world; and
- are likely, if retained, to be interpreted by the community as establishing either an 'exclusion zone' or as triggering a requirement for a negotiated agreement.

### **3.2. Visual Assessment Approach**

The Taralga Decision establishes the legally required approach to assessing visual impacts for wind farm projects in NSW. In that decision Chief Justice Preston of the NSW Land and Environment Court held that the threshold question is whether or not a first 'breach' in the present general landscape should be permitted by allowing any turbines. If a decision is made that one such 'breach' is acceptable, the question is then:

*...whether it is necessary or appropriate to remove elements of it if, in the first instance, one had reached a prima facie view that the present total project would have an unacceptable impact but that some lesser (but still viable) project might be approved.*

Chief Justice Preston went onto hold that:

*As I am satisfied that the presence of at least some turbines in the Taralga village landscape is acceptable, following a path of modification leading to constructive refusal is inappropriate. I have so concluded because to grant a consent, knowing that it was an effective futility, would clearly be contrary to the proper function of the Court and contrary to the broad public interest in the establishment of viable renewable energy sources.*

UFWA submits that the Draft Visual Bulletin should be amended to reflect NSW legal requirements and follow the visual assessment approach established in the Taralga Decision

### **3.3. Landscape Assessment**

UFWA submits that the Draft Visual Bulletin should be amended to reflect that:

- while community consultation should be carried out to determine local views as to the significance and sensitivity of the landscape;
- this ultimately needs to be objectively determined in accordance with established technical landscape and visual impact assessment methodologies

If the NSW Department of Planning and Environment requires further information in relation to the matters set out in this submission, we can provide further clarifications accordingly.

Yours Sincerely,

Shaq Mohajerani  
Projects Development Manager  
Union Fenosa Wind Australia

NSW Department of Planning

E: [windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au)

13<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

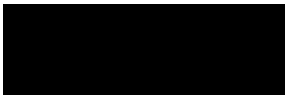
To Whom it May Concern,

**RE: THE FUTURE OF WIND ENERGY IN NSW**

I recently attended the NSW DPE Forum in Crookwell and listened to the arguments put forward regarding the new Wind Farm Planning Framework, in particular, the arguments put forward regarding Fire Fighting.

As a member of the Towrang Rural Fire Brigade, I strongly disagree with the argument put forward regarding the impact Wind Turbines would have on Rural Fire Fighting. My belief is that the Road Network would be a positive for access and firefighting.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Andrew Divall

A small black rectangular redaction box covering contact information.

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NSW Department of Planning

E: [windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:windenergy@planning.nsw.gov.au)

13<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

To Whom it May Concern,

**RE: THE FUTURE OF WIND ENERGY IN NSW**

I recently attended the NSW DPE Forum in Crookwell and listened to the arguments put forward regarding the new Wind Farm Planning Framework. The prospect of Wind Turbines is of no concern to our business and we are in full support of Renewable Wind Energy.

Based on some of the arguments put forward at the Forum, we wish to submit the following points:

**Visual Impact**

The landscape is constantly changing and has done for all of history. Regardless of Wind Turbines, it will continue to alter now and in the future. Turbines will assist in reducing our carbon emissions and will lessen the effects of climate change having a positive effect on the landscape.

**Positive Benefit**

One of the greatest benefits of Wind Turbine Development has been the generation of employment opportunities for local residents within our Company. Over the past 12 years, we have enjoyed working at Capital Wind Farm carrying out maintenance and construction, employing 50 + people at peak times to carry out works. We continue to employ 3 – 4 people to carry out ongoing maintenance and improvements to surrounding properties. This generation of employment has also benefited many other businesses in fencing, tree planting, screening etc. who have also had the opportunity for employment working with renewable energy.

## **Health**

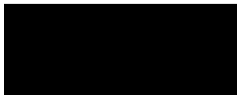
Currently there is no evidence of health impact of wind turbines, and there have been no incidents of health issues within the last 10 years of Wind Turbine use. I personally have lived 50 M away from high voltage powerlines for the past 30 years and have had no ill health effects from these. The same can be said for the proposed new Wind Farm.

## **Decommissioning of Turbines**

An argument was put forward that to decommission a wind turbine, the cost would be around \$250,000.00. We disagree with this. In our experience, there would be a neutral cost due to the value of the recyclable products ie. Blades can be reconfigured and reused, scrap metal can be taken to recycling facilities which Divall's is able to carry out

Divall's Earthmoving & Bulk Haulage are in full support of Renewable Wind Energy. I am available at any time to discuss same and can be contacted on the below number.

Yours faithfully,



Andrew Divall

**DIRECTOR**

**DIVALL'S EARTHMOVING & BULK HAULAGE**

**P: 02) 4829 8200**

# Australian Industrial Wind Turbine Awareness Network

15<sup>th</sup> September 2016

NSW Department of Planning and Environment  
Policy and Legislation

## RE: Comments on the Wind Energy Framework

It is clear that the new wind energy planning framework is purely designed to attract further investment in wind energy and designed to facilitate developers and a government agenda at the expense of some unfortunate rural dwellers, sacrificed as collateral damage.

Whilst projects are assessed on merit, one has to question the true merits of wind energy developments and not just accept that a project is approved on its merits, which in reality are never vigorously outlined. Without being heavily subsidised at a great cost to every energy consumer these developments would not exist.

The framework states that they have taken the community concerns into account but there is very little in this framework that will serve to protect the surrounding residents of wind energy developments from the many varied impacts that have been reported time and time again to the department.

Whilst the department state they have taken their advice on the health impacts from the NHMRC and NSW Health they have obviously not taken into account the **“Precautionary Principle”**. The department are very well aware of the multitude of complaints that impact the health and wellbeing of residents residing around wind energy developments in NSW, residents that have never been approached by the NHMRC or NSW Health as to what they are experiencing. The department have also been supplied with ample reputable reports by experts in their field that one would imagine would certainly raise concerns. There doesn't appear to be any law in the land that states **“that it is adequate to only protect 90 percent of the people 90 percent of the time”**. In fact there are laws that state there is a **“Duty of Care”** to the people and Common Law Rights that **“entitles people to the reasonable use and enjoyment of their amenity”**. Being told that you are **“collateral damage”** or **“road kill”** or that you have to suffer for the **“greater good”** is not acceptable.

When it comes to visual impacts how does the department deem what is acceptable visual pollution when it comes to such mammoth structures that completely dominate the ridgelines of scenic rural areas? Can the department show where visual mitigation at wind energy developments has ever been effective in eliminating the visual impacts of wind turbines? And why should anyone have to lose their rural view, especially when many have built to capture that view? Screening and compensation do not replace that, in fact in many instances when you eliminate the view from a property, it further devalues the property.

Impacts need to be mitigated at the source and if this is not achievable obviously the engineering, location and design layout are questionable and the development should not proceed.

The department are failing to regulate on so many levels and one has to wonder about any expert consultation the department has undertaken or if they have, when issues surrounding many of the deleterious impacts, which include setback distances, noise and ground borne vibration, EMF emissions, cumulative impacts, fire and safety measures, visual pollution, property values and decommissioning are not raising concerns and being addressed with adequate requirements as to not cause short or long term impacts, some that may have catastrophic consequences to those surrounding wind energy developments.

In the framework it also states that in NSW there are currently 10 operating wind farms, 4 with a capacity over 50 MW, in total 667 MW of installed capacity, two more wind farms under construction with a combined

capacity of 492MW and a significant number of proposed wind farms that are awaiting planning approval or are yet to be built (22 in total). It also states that these combined proposals could theoretically provide an additional 5,259 MW of installed capacity, close to a 788% increase on the current capacity. In practise though limitations on grid capacity and a highly competitive energy market mean that many of these proposals are unlikely to proceed. **SO WHY THEN AREN'T THE GOVERNMENT PLANNING A MORE RIGOROUS APPROVAL PROCESS SO NO MORE COMMUNITIES ARE IMPACTED, ESPECIALLY AS THE SPREAD OF WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS ARE STARTING TO ENCROACH ON SMALLER RURAL HOLDINGS WHILST THE TURBINES ARE INCREASING IN SIZE.**

It is certainly alarming though to see in-kind agreements, good neighbour agreements or whatever else the developers would like to call them that are being reached with non-associated properties. The allowing of these agreements is not resolving the impacts and only permitting developers further means to exert the powers afforded to them by a government with an idealistic agenda.

In addition it is concerning what appears to be the commercial misuse of Crown Lands and Roads and further the removal of the setback distances is a serious retrograde step and the basis for this must be questioned.

Of course we could elaborate further on every topic but it is obviously only a waste of our time.

Does the department have empirical scientific evidence to state that **"NO HARM IS BEING DONE"** by industrial wind energy developments.

***"JUST BECAUSE IT IS NOT REGULATED DOESN'T MEAN IT IS NOT CAUSING HARM AND THAT NO ONE CAN BE MADE ACCOUNTABLE"***

Yours sincerely  
Patina Schneider  
On behalf of AIWTAN

---

**EMAIL:** [REDACTED] **POSTAL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED] ORANGE NSW 2800

***"If you shut up truth and bury it under the ground, it will but grow, and gather to itself such explosive power that the day it bursts through it will blow up everything in its way".***

**EMILE ZOLA**

#### **LINKS**

**Human Impacts:** <http://windvictimsontario.com/>;  
<http://globalwindenergyimpact.com/>; <http://mothersagainstwindturbines.com/>;  
<http://waubrafoundation.org.au/>; <http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/>; **Recording**  
**Impacts:** <http://www.illwind.org/> **Property Loss:** <http://windturbinepropertyloss.org/site/>; **Fire:**  
<http://turbinesonfire.org/>; **Informative sites:** <http://www.wind-watch.org/>;  
<http://stopthesethings.com/>; <http://quixoteslaststand.com/>; <http://www.windwiseradio.org/>;  
<http://www.friends-against-wind.org/>; **Wind Energy**  
**Performance:** <http://energy.anero.id.au/wind-energy> **Links to over 2000 international anti-**  
**wind groups:** <http://quixoteslaststand.com/worldwide-anti-wind-groups/>; <http://ontario-wind-resistance.org/>;  
<http://epaw.org/>; <http://na-paw.org/>; <http://www.windaction.org/>;

## Caleb Ball

---

**From:** Airport Developments <Airport.Developments@AirservicesAustralia.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 23 September 2016 1:49 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Cc:** Cook, David  
**Subject:** AIRSERVICES COMMENTS: The New Wind Energy Planning Framework (NSW-MI-014) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Attachments:** Wind Farm Aviation Study - 19 Aug 14.pdf

Hi,

Thank you for providing Airservices with the opportunity to provide comment to the *New Wind Energy Planning Framework* and the extension in time to respond.

### Summary

The information relating to the impact on aviation facilities and the need to consult Airservices (and the aviation industry in general - CASA and the airports) during the planning phase of these developments should be made clearer in the policy. We acknowledge that there is reference to the *NASF Guideline D - Managing Wind Turbine Risk to Aircraft*, however reference could also be made to the developing *NASF Guideline G - Protecting Aviation Facilities, CNS* and how it relates to wind farm developments. Airservices would welcome the opportunity to provide further input into developing this important framework.

### Specific Document Review

#### Wind energy assessment policy draft consultation 2016 08

**Page 7 (Section 3)** briefly mentions aviation safety, however it would be beneficial if it included what the potential adverse impacts could be such as impacts on airspace, and Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) instrumentation which reflects that there are critical and sensitive areas associated with CNS facilities that are ground based aviation infrastructure.

**Page 10 (Section 4.3.2)** is very high level and does not explicitly include impacts on aviation (eg, airspace and CNS facilities) as part of the technical studies to be undertaken. It would be beneficial to a proponent if a non-exhaustive but indicative list of potential impacts could be highly with a brief explanation of each which would include aviation.

**Page 10 (Section 4.3.4)** discusses at a high level the requirements associated with refurbishing and/or decommissioning wind turbines such as potentially not requiring a DA. However, if such activity involves the use of cranes and/or other tall mobile plant, there may be an adverse impact to aviation and may require an assessment from Airservices (and potentially CASA). Perhaps a criteria could be developed to indicate those activities that will or will not require an aviation assessment.

**Page 12 (Section 5.2)** does not identify any aviation stakeholders with regard to consultation (eg, Airservices, CASA, Australian Airports Association), some of which have aviation safety responsibilities.

**General:** As a general comment, it would be ideal to include additional information with regard to potential impacts to aviation - both airspace and ground based facilities. The Department may wish to consider including information (either in general or specific) about restricted areas around CNS facilities.

#### Wind energy framework standard secretary environmental assessment requirements draft for consultation 2016 08

**Page 3** identifies aviation safety as a key hazard/risk, however in addition to identifying aerodromes within 30km, CNS facilities (ie, ground based aviation infrastructure) will also need to be identified.

Although the EIS must assess the potential impacts on aviation safety (including radar interference), when it discusses consultation as described on **Page 4**, it does not explicitly mention any of the aviation-related agencies.



PLEASE NOTE: When advised at the planning stage, we provide the attached document to the wind farm proponent as a guide to preparing their Aviation Impact Study (AIS) which generally results in a greater level of surety for both the proponent and the aviation industry.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this email or can provide us with any advice on how Airservices can contribute to providing any additional aviation context to the *Framework*, do not hesitate to give me a call.

Regards,

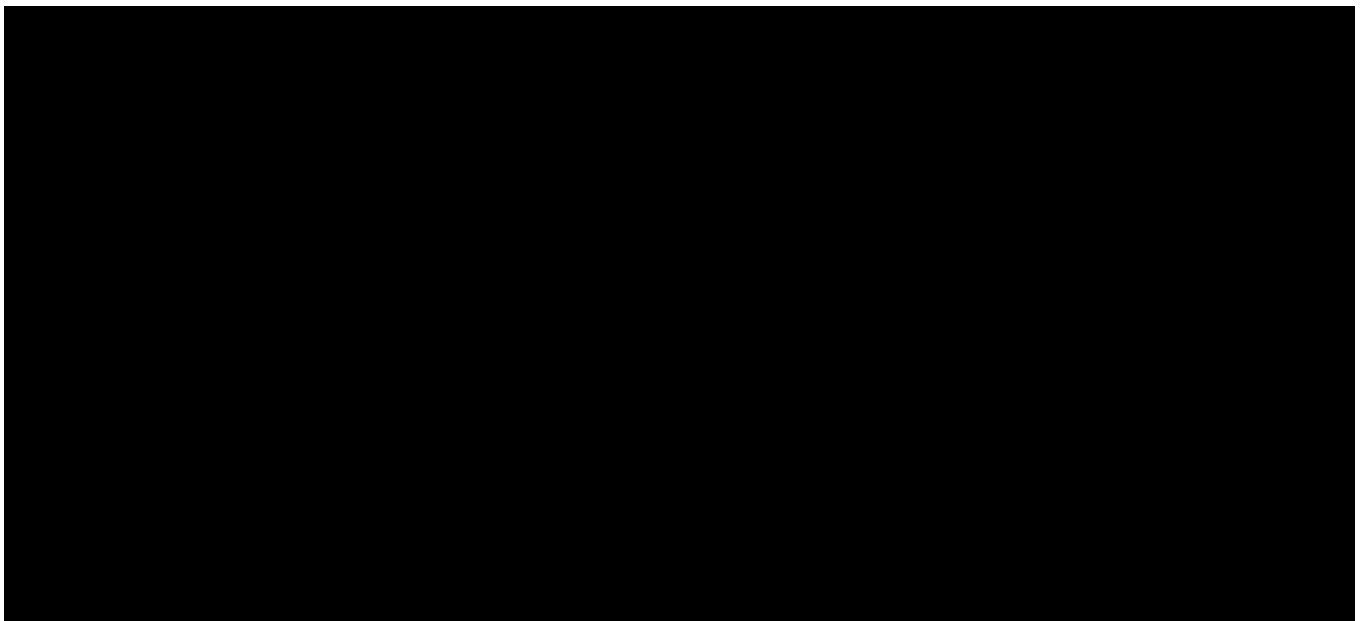
**Tony Aiezza**

**Airport Development Specialist**

Airservices Australia

25 Constitution Avenue, Canberra ACT 2601

t **02 6268 4331** | m 0409 143 120





**Corporate & International Affairs**

25 Constitution Avenue  
(GPO Box 367)  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

t 02 6268 5101

f 02 6268 4233

**[www.airservicesaustralia.com](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com)**

ABN 59 698 720 886

*To Whom It May Concern*

**Airservices Aviation Assessments for Wind Farm Developments**

Guidelines to manage the risk to aviation safety from wind turbine installations (Wind Farms/Wind Monitoring Towers) are under development by the National Airports Safeguarding Advisory Group (NASAG). NASAG is comprised of high-level Commonwealth, State and Territory transport and planning officials and has been formed to develop a national land use planning regime to apply near airports and under flight paths.

The wind farm guidelines will provide information to proponents and planning authorities to help identify any potential safety risks posed by wind turbine and wind monitoring installations from an aviation perspective.

Potential safety risks include (but are not limited to) impacts on flight procedures and aviation communications, navigation and surveillance (CNS) facilities which require assessment by Airservices.

To facilitate these assessments all wind farm proposals submitted to Airservices must include an Aviation Impact Statement (AIS) prepared by an aeronautical consultant in accordance with the AIS criteria set out below.

AIS must be undertaken by an aeronautical consultant with suitable knowledge and capabilities to provide a reliable and comprehensive report. All data is to be supplied in electronic form. If you are not familiar with any aeronautical consultants, you may wish to view the list on the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) website:

[http://www.casa.gov.au/scripts/nc.dll?WCMS:STANDARD::pc=PC\\_90412](http://www.casa.gov.au/scripts/nc.dll?WCMS:STANDARD::pc=PC_90412)

## **AIS Criteria**

The AIS must provide a detailed analysis covering, as a minimum:

### Airspace Procedures:

1. Obstacles
  - Co-ordinates in WGS 84 (to 0.1 second of arc or better)
  - Elevations AMSL (to 0.3 metres)
2. Drawings
  - Overlaid on topographical base not less than 1:250,000. Details of datum and level of charting accuracy to be noted.
  - Electronic format compatible with Microstation version 8i.
3. Aerodromes
  - Specify all registered/certified aerodromes that are located within 30nm (55.56km) from any obstacle referred to in (1) above.
  - Nominate all instrument approach and landing procedures at these aerodromes.
  - Confirmation that the obstacles do not penetrate Annex 14 or OLS for any aerodrome. If an obstacle does penetrate, specify the extent.
4. Air Routes
  - Nominate air routes published in ERC-L & ERC-H which are located near/over any obstacle referred to in (1) above.
  - Specify two waypoint names located on the routes which are located before and after the obstacles.
5. Airspace
  - Airspace classification – A, B, C, D, E, G etc where the obstacles are located.

### Navigation/Radar:

1. Detect the presence of dead zones
2. False target analysis
3. Target positional accuracy
4. Probability of detection
5. Radar coverage implications
6. We would expect the analysis to follow the guidelines outlined in the EUROCONTROL Guidelines on How to Assess the Potential Impact of Wind Turbines on Surveillance Sensors.

[http://www.eurocontrol.int/sites/default/files/field\\_tabs/content/documents/events/guidelines-to-assess-potential-impact-of-wind-turbines.pdf](http://www.eurocontrol.int/sites/default/files/field_tabs/content/documents/events/guidelines-to-assess-potential-impact-of-wind-turbines.pdf)

NOTE: Within the Eurocontrol Guidelines there are specific assumptions about the type of Wind Turbine for which the Guidelines are applicable (i.e. 3 blades, 30-200 m height, and horizontal rotation axis). For any deviations to the Wind Turbine characteristics listed within the Eurocontrol Guidelines, the proponent should justify to Airservices why the Eurocontrol Guidelines are still applicable.

### **Airservices Review of AIS**

Airservices will review the quality and completeness of an AIS and will undertake limited modelling and analysis to confirm the findings and recommendations of the report.

Provided the AIS is of sound quality and is complete in accordance with the above criteria, there will be no charge for the review or limited modelling and analysis.

If the AIS is not of sound quality or is not complete in accordance with the above criteria, no modelling or analysis will be undertaken. Airservices will advise the proponent that the AIS does not meet the requirements and that the proposal cannot be assessed by Airservices.

If Airservices review of an AIS confirms impacts identified in the report (or identifies additional impacts), Airservices will advise the proponent of the impacts and the required mitigating actions (where mitigation is feasible). The proponent will also be advised that there will be charges for any mitigation actions to be undertaken by Airservices.

These charges may be advised at the time but it is likely that a detailed quote will be needed and this will only be provided on request from the proponent.

Please contact Airport Relations on 02 6268 4725 or [airport.developments@airservicesaustralia.com](mailto:airport.developments@airservicesaustralia.com) if you have any questions.

Current as at 19 August 2014

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 11:13 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Robert Peddie

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Robert Peddie 2452

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 11:25 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Yours faithfully, Tim Galli 4421

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 11:49 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Yours faithfully, Ri Fraser 2483

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 12:12 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Yours faithfully, Patricia Kennedy 2207



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 12:22 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Yours faithfully, Bronwyn Clark 2339

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 12:37 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Alexander Hromas

Dear Sir/Madam,

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Yours faithfully, Alexander Hromas 2110

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 12:37 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, z z 2000

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 12:42 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** We must embrace wind energy

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having just returned from Europe, I am grateful for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. In each of the countries I have visited, in particular Greece, Germany and Ireland, wind turbines are obvious and welcomed as a clean renewable energy source. They have in no way a negative visual impact.

My comments echo those made by the Nature Conservation Council, namely support in general for a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

NSW needs to build a commercial commitment to clean energy as it is currently the worst performing of the Australian states. And as Australians have the one of the highest per capita production of greenhouse gases, we need to step up to alter this situation rapidly.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

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Yours faithfully, Angela Michaelis Balmain

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 12:48 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Yours faithfully, Helen Redmond 2131

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 1:06 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

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Yours faithfully, caroline Davis 2535

## Caleb Ball

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 1:20 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Stanley W Bolden  
  
**Categories:** Complete

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Dr Stanley Bolden 2350

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 1:23 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Hazel Bolden

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Mrs Hazel Bolden 2350



## Caleb Ball

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 1:26 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Wind energy is clean

If the ACT can do it why not NSW?

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 2:23 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Ray Thorpe 2484

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 2:34 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Vital action on Sustainable Energy

Dear Sir/Madam,

In our lifetimes, we have already witnessed unimaginable change, both in terms of technological development and in our conception of our world. Being born in the Fifties, I grew up with a presumption that Nature was a vast, endless reserve of resources for the use of humanity - and the population was a quarter of today's. We now know otherwise.

The wisdom of hindsight will be of little comfort for those born today and yet to come. We must act now in the knowledge that this Planet is all we have - it is our life support system and to safeguard the Future we have to act.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, michael doherty 2535

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 2:51 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Carole Kostanich 2454

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 2:56 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Franz Reidel 2257

**Caleb Ball**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 3:06 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** The New Wind Energy Planning Framework Submission

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework.

It is clear we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework however I believe it puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. It is extremely difficult to understand how anyone can think the sight of these graceful turbines is worse than, or even as bad as, the atrocious visual impact that open cut coal mines have.

We hope common sense will prevail and that the NSW government will ensure that its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and that it is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Denise Breit 2484

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 3:29 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Support the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

Australia needs to act on climate change now . With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Lorraine Waters 4211

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2016 3:55 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, {Gwen Keenafirstname} Keena {2251postcode}



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 18 September 2016 4:51 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

We need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuel immediately.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Dave Rawlins 2482

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 18 September 2016 9:32 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Wind Energy Planning Framework submission

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Ray Flanagan 2480

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 18 September 2016 9:35 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

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Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Max Gregory 2800

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 7:40 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Do what is right dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

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Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Rachel Macgregor 2480

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 9:44 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Susanna Evington 2479

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 1:27 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Koalas not Shenhua's coal mine

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

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However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Geoff Morley 2486

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 3:43 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

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However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Paula Thurston 2558

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 9:12 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, z z 2000



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 9:28 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** John Austin

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, john austin 2066

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 September 2016 4:19 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Kathe Garbrick

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Kathe Garbrick 66503

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 September 2016 7:02 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope you will accept this late submission. i have been sick and unable to submit this until now.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Elisabeth Dark 2038

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 September 2016 7:51 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** My Submission on the NSW New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Neville McGinty 2112

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 September 2016 9:08 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Kathleen Earsman 4552

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 9:35 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** Erwin Heinrich

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Wind Energy Planning Framework. I generally support a new Framework that provides greater certainty and guidance on the assessment of wind energy projects in NSW.

With increasing CO2 levels causing warming of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, the breakup of ice sheets, glacial retreat, sea level rise, and ocean acidification, it is clear that we urgently need improved action in NSW to transition away from fossil fuels and increase our investment in renewable energy.

Wind energy will play an important role in that transition, so it is important that the New Wind Energy Planning Framework encourages investors to develop wind energy projects in NSW.

There are a number of positive aspects to the new Framework including an increased emphasis on community engagement and consultation; a shift away from arbitrary, strict buffer zones; and confirmation that wind turbines do not cause adverse impacts on health.

However I am concerned that the new Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. I do not agree that the visual impacts of wind energy projects are that much more significant than other major projects, such as open cut coal mines or high-rise residential buildings, that they warrant a more stringent assessment. This could act as a deterrent for investors in NSW.

Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Erwin Heinrich 2217

**Caleb Ball**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 18 September 2016 5:47 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Subject:** GET WITH THE FUTURE!

Dear Sir/Madam,

GET WITH THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. YOU ARE A MODERN THINKING PREMIER.

Framework puts too high an emphasis on the visual impacts of wind turbines. Wind energy has significant benefits to the people of NSW and I urge the NSW government to ensure its new Framework promotes investment in wind energy here in NSW and is finalised in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully, Hugh Veness 2230

## Caleb Ball

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**From:** David Liversidge [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 September 2016 8:26 AM  
**To:** DPE PS Wind Energy Mailbox  
**Cc:** David Liversidge  
**Subject:** New Wind Energy Planning Framework - comment

Wind Energy Planning  
NSW Government

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to confirm my support for the establishment of clearly stated wind energy planning guidelines for NSW.

As a NSW resident in regional NSW (Yass – Post Code 2582) I have long supported the establishment of wind turbines as a necessary step in the evolution and construction of necessary energy infrastructure in NSW.

I do so as a support to local businesses, drought proofing farms & regional economic development, as for the clear net environmental benefits that wind turbine based electricity generation is associated with.

I notice that NSW seems to lag other states in this regard and believe that the finalisation of these planning guidelines would assist in the commercial establishment of more new wind energy project in our State.

The current phenomenon in which a vocal minority of residents seek to block progress on new technology is not a new one.

Historical record indicates that the establishment several such technological developments have been strongly resisted but were eventually adopted. For example:

1. the enclosure of paddocks and orchards and private ownership of land;
2. introduction of the railway and motor cars; and
3. construction of the high voltage electricity transmission network (now the NEM) that links all of Australia's South Eastern states and includes (ACT and Qld).

I agree to my view on this matter being publicly disclosed, if necessary, and hope that this low carbon beneficial technology will be formerly supported soon through the finalisation of this NSW "New Wind Energy Planning Framework"

Thank you

David Liversidge

[REDACTED] Yass, NSW, 2582