

**52.32**

31/07/2018  
VC148

**WIND ENERGY FACILITY**

**Purpose**

To facilitate the establishment and expansion of wind energy facilities, in appropriate locations, with minimal impact on the amenity of the area.

**52.32-1**

31/07/2018  
VC148

**Application**

This clause applies to land used and developed or proposed to be used and developed for a Wind energy facility.

**52.32-2**

21/11/2017  
VC141

**Use and development of land**

A permit is required to use and develop land for a Wind energy facility.

The use and development of land for a Wind energy facility is prohibited at a location listed in the table to this clause unless the condition opposite the location specified in the table is met.

**Table to Clause 52.32-2**

Location	Condition
On land where any turbine (measured from the centre of the tower at ground level) that forms part of the facility is located within one kilometre of an existing dwelling. This does not apply to a Wind energy facility that is located on land in a residential zone, an industrial zone, a commercial zone or a special purpose zone.	Must meet the requirements of clause 52.32-3.
Land described in a schedule to the <i>National Parks Act 1975</i>	Must be principally used to supply electricity to a facility used in conjunction with conservation, recreation, administration or accommodation use of the land.
Land declared a Ramsar wetland as defined under section 17 of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwth)	
Land listed in a schedule to Clause 52.32-2	Must be on land in a residential zone, industrial zone, commercial zone or special purpose zone and must be integrated as part of the development of the land.

**52.32-3**

21/11/2017  
VC141

**Turbine within one kilometre of a dwelling**

An application that includes a proposed turbine within one kilometre of an existing dwelling must be accompanied by:

- A plan showing all dwellings within one kilometre of a proposed turbine (measured from the centre of the tower at ground level).
- Evidence of the written consent of any owner as at the date of that application of an existing dwelling located within one kilometre of a proposed turbine (measured from the centre of the tower at ground level) that forms part of a Wind energy facility. This does not apply to an application to amend such a permit under section 72 or section 97I of the Act unless the amendment of the permit would:
  - increase the number of turbines; or

- change the location of a turbine so that the centre of the tower (at ground level) is located closer to an existing dwelling (within one kilometre of a permitted turbine) than the centre of the tower (at ground level) of the closest permitted turbine to that dwelling.

This does not apply to a Wind energy facility that is located on land in a residential zone, an industrial zone, a commercial zone or a special purpose zone.

## 52.32-4 Application requirements

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An application must be accompanied by the following information as appropriate:



### Site and context analysis

A site and context analysis may use a site plan, photographs or other techniques to accurately describe the site and surrounding area and must include the following information:

- In relation to the site:
  - Site shape, dimensions and size
  - Orientation and contours
  - Current land use
  - The existing use and siting of buildings or works on the land
  - Existing vegetation types, condition and coverage
  - The landscape of the site
  - Species of flora and fauna listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwth)
  - Sites of cultural heritage significance
  - Wind characteristics
  - Any other notable features, constraints or other characteristics of the site.
- In relation to the surrounding area:
  - Existing land uses
  - Above-ground utilities
  - Access to infrastructure
  - Direction and distances to nearby dwellings, townships, urban areas, significant conservation and recreation areas, water features, tourist routes and walking tracks, major roads, airports, aerodromes and existing and proposed wind energy facilities
  - The siting and use of buildings on adjacent properties
  - Views to and from the site, including views from existing dwellings and key vantage points including major roads, walking tracks, tourist routes and regional population growth corridors
  - Sites of flora and fauna listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwth), including significant habitat corridors, and movement corridors for these fauna
  - Sites of cultural heritage significance
  - National Parks, State Parks, Coastal Reserves and other land subject to the *National Parks Act 1975*
  - Land declared a Ramsar wetland as defined under section 17 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwth)

## VICTORIA PLANNING PROVISIONS

- Location of any land included in the schedule to clause 52.32-2 of the planning scheme
- Any other notable features or characteristics of the area
- Bushfire risks.

### Design response

- Detailed plans of the proposed development.
- Plans and elevations of transmission infrastructure and electricity utility works required to connect the facility to the electricity network, and access road options.
- Accurate visual simulations illustrating the development in the context of the surrounding area and from key public view points.
- A rehabilitation plan for the site.
- A written report(s), including:
  - A description of the proposal.
  - An explanation of how the proposed design derives from and responds to the site analysis.
  - A description of how the proposal responds to any significant landscape features for the area identified in the planning scheme.
  - An assessment of:
    - the visual impact of the proposal on the surrounding landscape.
    - the visual impact on abutting land that is described in a schedule to the *National Parks Act 1975* and Ramsar wetlands and coastal areas.
    - the impact of the proposal on any species (including birds and bats) listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* or the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwth), **except the Brolga (*Grus rubicundus*)**.
    - **the impact of the proposal on the Brolga (*Grus rubicundus*) population in accordance with the *Brolga Assessment and Mitigation Standards* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2020).**
    - the noise impacts of the proposal prepared in accordance with the New Zealand Standard NZS6808:2010, Acoustics - Wind Farm Noise, including an assessment of whether a high amenity noise limit is applicable, as assessed under Section 5.3 of the Standard.
    - the impacts upon Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal cultural heritage.
  - A statement of why the site is suitable for the wind energy facility.
  - An environmental management plan including any rehabilitation and monitoring requirements.

If in the opinion of the responsible authority a requirement of the site and context analysis or design response is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, the responsible authority may waive or reduce the requirement.

An application must be accompanied by the following information:

### Mandatory noise assessment

- A pre-construction (predictive) noise assessment report demonstrating that the proposal can comply with the New Zealand Standard NZS6808:2010, Acoustics – Wind Farm Noise, including

an assessment of whether a high amenity noise limit is applicable under Section 5.3 of the Standard.

- An environmental audit report of the pre-construction (predictive) noise assessment report prepared under Part IXD, Section 53V of the *Environment Protection Act 1970* by an environmental auditor appointed under Part IXD of the *Environment Protection Act 1970*. The environmental audit report must verify that the acoustic assessment undertaken for the purpose of the pre-construction (predictive) noise assessment report has been conducted in accordance with the New Zealand Standard NZS6808:2010, Acoustics – Wind Farm Noise.

This requirement does not apply to an application to amend a permit under section 72 or 97I of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, if the amendment to the permit sought by the application will not alter the noise assessment of the wind energy facility.

### Transitional provision

The design response requirements of Clause 52.32-4 in force immediately before the approval date of Amendment VC084 continue to apply to an application for:

- A permit lodged before that date.
- An amendment to a permit if:
  - The original permit application was lodged before that date; or
  - The original permit application was one that benefited from this transitional provision.

The design response requirements of Clause 52.32-4 in force immediately before the approval date of Amendment VC084 may be applied to an application for a permit lodged within one year following that date.

### 52.32-5

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#### Mandatory condition

If a mandatory noise assessment must accompany an application under Clause 52.32-4, any permit or amended permit issued with respect to that application must include the following conditions:

- A post-construction noise assessment report prepared in accordance with the New Zealand Standard NZS6808:2010, Acoustics – Wind Farm Noise demonstrating whether the wind energy facility complies with the Standard, must be submitted to the Responsible Authority. If the wind energy facility is constructed in stages, additional post-construction noise assessment reports for each stage must be submitted to the Responsible Authority.
- Each post-construction noise assessment report must be accompanied by an environmental audit report prepared under Part IXD, Section 53V of the *Environment Protection Act 1970* by an environmental auditor appointed under Part IXD of the *Environment Protection Act 1970*. The environmental audit report must verify that the acoustic assessment undertaken for the purpose of the post-construction noise assessment report has been conducted in accordance with the New Zealand Standard NZS6808:2010, Acoustics – Wind Farm Noise.

### 52.32-6

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#### Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines of Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- The effect of the proposal on the surrounding area in terms of noise, blade glint, shadow flicker and electromagnetic interference.
- The impact of the development on significant views, including visual corridors and sightlines.
- The impact of the facility on the natural environment and natural systems.
- The impact of the facility on cultural heritage.

- The impact of the facility on aircraft safety.
- *Policy and Planning Guidelines for Development of Wind Energy Facilities in Victoria* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, March 2019).
- The New Zealand Standard NZS6808:2010, Acoustics - Wind Farm Noise.
- The standards and requirements of the *Brolga Assessment and Mitigation Standards* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2020).

**52.32-7**

04/10/2018  
VC149

**Anemometer**

Despite anything to the contrary in this scheme a permit may be granted to use and develop land for the purpose of wind measurement by an anemometer for a period of more than three years.

**52.32-8**

04/10/2018  
VC149

**Application to amend a permit under section 72 of the Act**

An application to amend a permit made under section 72 of the Act is exempt from the decision requirements of section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of section 82(1) of the Act if the amendment of the permit does not:

- increase the number of turbines; or
- change the location of a turbine so that the centre of the tower (at ground level) is located closer to an existing dwelling (within one kilometre of a permitted turbine) than the centre of the tower (at ground level) of the closest permitted turbine to that dwelling.

**52.32-9**

04/10/2018  
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**Application to amend a permit under section 97I of the Act**

An application to amend a referred wind energy facility permit made under section 97I of the Act is wholly exempt from the requirements of section 97E(1) of the Act if the application does not seek to:

- increase the total number of turbines; or
- increase the maximum height of any turbine; or
- change the location of a turbine so that the centre of the tower (at ground level) is located closer to an existing dwelling (within one kilometre of a permitted turbine) than the centre of the tower (at ground level) of the closest permitted turbine to that dwelling.

The requirements of section 97E(1) of the Act are modified so as to require referral of objections and submissions to an advisory committee established under section 151 of the Act if an application to amend a referred wind energy facility permit made under section 97I of the Act does not seek to:

- increase the total number of turbines by more than 15%; or
- increase the maximum height of any turbine by more than 20%; or
- change the location of a turbine so that the centre of the tower (at ground level) is located closer to an existing dwelling (within one kilometre of a permitted turbine) than the centre of the tower (at ground level) of the closest permitted turbine to that dwelling.