Our ref: D6213621

Your ref: PA2001066 (South Gippsland)



19 July 2021

The Hon. Richard Wynne Minister for Planning

Via email: <u>Development.Approvals@delwp.vic.gov.au</u>

Dear Minister

Notice of Planning Permit Application PA2001066 (South Gippsland) Delburn Wind Energy Facility

Thank you for providing notice of planning permit application PA2001066 in relation to the development of four wind turbines and associated buildings and works (including vegetation removal) proposed as a component of the Delburn wind energy facility.

The proposed facility has been a matter of public knowledge since 2019 when concept plans were released to the public as part of OSMI Australia's initial community engagement process. A number of consultation phases have since occurred and Council has become aware of the broad range of community views that have been expressed regarding the proposal.

The proposal includes siting considerations that seek to minimise the visual impact of turbines on the significant landscapes of the local area. We are aware that some community members hold strong views opposing the introduction of wind turbines, while other community members are more comfortable with these changes as wind energy facilities become a more common feature in the Australian landscape. A similar range of views exist regarding potential impacts on flora and turbine related noise.

Council notes that the planning permit application and the submissions received will be considered by Planning Panels Victoria who will make a recommendation to the Minister regarding whether a planning permit should be approved and the conditions any permit should contain. Council supports the Panel process as an appropriate means to consider submissions and balance the various viewpoints and interests likely to be raised. We strongly encourage continuing communication and dialogue with community members as these processes occur.

We trust that the Panel process and the Minister's final decision will achieve a measured outcome that balances the need to transition electricity generation



to a renewable future while minimising the impacts on those communities where new energy generation facilities are located.

If you have any further questions please contact Ken Griffiths Acting Planning Manager on 5662 9236 or email ken.griffiths@southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Julie Eisenbise Chair Administrator