

Attachment 2 - Information to be provided in the Major Project Impact Statement in addressing the matters identified in the Assessment Requirement Notice

In order to satisfy section 60ZA(6) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) which specifies that the assessment criteria must be relevant to the Regulator's final advice that it would give under section 60ZZF(1) in relation to the Bell Bay Wind Farm Major Project, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) requests that the Major Project Impact Statement (MPIS) addresses the matters outlined below under NRE Tas's role as a relevant regulator with project-associated Acts administering threatened flora species, threatened fauna species and products of wildlife.

(1) Threatened Flora Species listed under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (TSPA)

The Major Project area contains a large number of threatened flora records (over 1,000 records in the Natural Values Atlas [NVA]). The associated Natural Values Report suggests that 28 listed species have been recorded within the Major Project area, and a further 28 species recorded within five kilometres. This includes 10 species listed as Matters of National Environmental Significance under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBCA). It also includes two species listed as endangered under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (Tas) (TSPA). One such species, *Chorizandra enodis*, is only known in Tasmania from within the Major Project area.

It is unclear whether any detailed botanical surveys have occurred for the project. While the desktop assessment gives a good indication of the likelihood of species presence, systematic field surveys will be required to determine their presence within the development impact footprint, including associated infrastructure locations such as access roads and tracks, parking, staff accommodation, material storage areas and areas to be impacted during construction. It also should not be assumed that if vegetation is degraded, then threatened flora species do not occur, as many threatened plants occur in degraded sites such as drains along roadsides and in paddocks.

Given the concentration of threatened flora records in the Major Project area, it is anticipated that the proposal has the potential to impact on listed species. Extensive surveys will be required to determine the presence of threatened flora within the development footprint. This includes targeted surveys of orchids and other ephemeral species that are difficult to detect outside of optimal survey times.

NRE Tas's [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys -Terrestrial Development Proposals](#) (Development Survey Guidelines) should be used to inform survey methodology for threatened flora.

The criteria against which the Project is assessed must include an assessment of flora species which may occur within the Major Project area (based on desktop surveys) and whether or not they have been specifically targeted during the on-ground surveys (and, if not, then an explanation as to why they have not been included). The MPIS must include maps of

all threatened flora species recorded in the surveys, overlaid with the proposed wind turbine generator (WTG) layout and associated infrastructure (including areas to be impacted during construction), as well as a detailed assessment of the predicted impacts of the development to the recorded threatened flora species. The MPIS must also include measures to minimise and mitigate impacts to threatened flora species.

(2) Threatened Fauna Species listed under the TSPA

The desktop assessment of the Major Project area indicates that there are records of seven fauna species listed under the TSPA and/or the EPBCA, that are likely to occur within the development footprint and may be impacted by the proposed development. A further 27 species are within five kilometres.

NRE Tas requests that on-ground surveys for threatened fauna and threatened fauna habitat are undertaken for the proposed development, including associated infrastructure locations such as access roads and tracks, parking, staff accommodation, material storage areas and areas to be impacted during construction. Surveys should also include those areas that are likely to experience off-site or downstream impacts, such as noise and light impacts or water quality, that may impact threatened fauna and/or threatened fauna habitat within those locations.

Fauna surveys must be undertaken by a suitably qualified person in accordance with the Development Survey Guidelines (referenced above). The criteria against which this Major Project is assessed must include an assessment of fauna species that may occur within the Major Project area (based on desktop surveys), and whether or not they have been specifically targeted during the on-ground surveys (and, if not, an explanation for why).

The MPIS must include maps of all threatened fauna species and their foraging, roosting and/or nesting habitat, recorded in the on-ground surveys, overlaid with the proposed WTG layout and associated infrastructure (including areas to be impacted during construction), and a detailed assessment of the predicted impacts of the development to the recorded threatened fauna species. The MPIS must also include measures to minimise and mitigate impacts to threatened fauna species and their habitat from the development.

(3) Products of Wildlife listed under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* (NCA)

The proposed development may result in impacts to the nests, dens and/or burrows of listed Tasmanian fauna species, including the Tasmanian devil (*Sarcophilus harrisii*), spotted-tailed quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus maculatus*), white-bellied sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) and Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle (*Aquila audax ssp. fleayi*). Nests, dens and burrows are listed under the NCA as products of wildlife. Any impacts to products of wildlife listed under the NCA requires a permit 'to take'.

As such, products of wildlife will need to be included in the MPIS and the on-ground surveys of the Major Project area will need to account for nests, dens and/or burrows present. The MPIS must include measures to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to nests, dens and/or burrows from the proposed development. It must also include a discussion of the numbers of

nests, dens and/or burrows observed in the surveys and the likelihood of these needing to be decommissioned for the development.

It is recommended that den surveys and impact assessments for the Tasmanian devil are undertaken in line with NRE Tas's [Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines and Management Advice](#) (Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines). In the absence of specific guidelines for the spotted-tailed quoll, the Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines can be applied given the species has similar habitat requirements to the devil and are susceptible to a similar range of threats.