

Ref: A22/248142

03 October 2022

Mr John Ramsay  
Executive Commissioner  
Tasmanian Planning Commission  
[tpc@planning.tas.gov.au](mailto:tpc@planning.tas.gov.au)

Dear Mr Ramsay,

### **SES COMMENTS REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR MAJOR PROJECT – NORTH EAST WIND**

I am writing in response to the Tasmanian Planning Commission's (TPC) letter dated 18 August 2022, requesting comments from the State Emergency Service for the first stage of the major project process – to develop assessment criteria against which the major project will be assessed.

SES provide comments regarding matters related to:

- flood-prone area hazards;
- coastal inundation hazards; and
- emergency management

#### **Flood-prone area hazards**

SES notes that there may be flood-prone areas within both the Rushy Lagoon and Waterhouse project sites. An initial assessment of the project against the current relevant planning scheme, the *Dorset Interim Planning Scheme*, was included in the *Major Project Proposal – North East Wind, ACEN Australia 24 June 2022*. This initial assessment concluded in section 10.1.4 – Table 22, that the Flood Prone Hazard Areas Code applies to the proposed development.

The primary and ancillary infrastructure proposed to be constructed is described in the Major Project Proposal and includes turbines, roads, electrical infrastructure, quarries, service structures and a wharf.

Given the complexity of the Major Project over two sites and with a diversity of infrastructure proposed, SES recommends assessment criteria be included to assess flood risks to and posed by the development for the life of the development, and the potential to cause increased risk from flood.

## Coastal Inundation Hazards

SES notes that there are coastal inundation hazard investigation areas, within both the Rushy Lagoon and Waterhouse project sites. The initial assessment of the project against the current relevant planning scheme, included in the Major Project Proposal concluded in section 10.1.4 – Table 22, that the Coastal Code applies.

Given the complexity of the Major Project over two sites and with a diversity of infrastructure proposed, SES recommends assessment criteria be included to assess risk management for coastal hazard impacts (including inundation and erosion) to and posed by the development for the life of the development, without increasing risk to other land.

SES suggest that there may be additional assessment criteria required to address coastal impacts<sup>1</sup>. SES note that consultation with the Department of Premier and Cabinet – Office of Security and Emergency Management may be beneficial to the first stage of the Major Project process in this regard.

## Emergency Management

SES note that the project proposal is planning for design, construction, operation and end of project life decommissioning within the scope of the project. The proposed project scope includes an the creation of an estimated 400 jobs during the construction phase of the project, which includes the construction of 210 wind turbines, ancillary infrastructure such as, roads, electrical infrastructure, quarries, service structures and a wharf. The life of the project is estimated to be 25 years and with refurbishment upto 50 years, with an estimated 65 ongoing operational jobs created after construction is completed.

SES anticipate that the scope of this project may place a substantial demand on existing emergency management resources. SES recommend emergency management assessment criteria for the full life of the project (this includes the construction, operation and decommissioning phases) be included.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the first stage of this Major Project proposal.

If you have any further questions regarding this letter, please contact me at [Chris.Irvine@ses.tas.gov.au](mailto:Chris.Irvine@ses.tas.gov.au) or on (03) 6173 2700.

Yours sincerely



**Chris Irvine**  
Manager – Flood Policy Unit

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<sup>1</sup> [Harvey, N and Dew, R 2016, 'Coastal Impacts of Onshore Wind Farms in Australia', \*Journal of Coastal Research\*, March 2016](#)