

Environment Protection Authority

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Our Ref: D24-105126



15 April 2024

Mr John Ramsay
Executive Commissioner
Tasmanian Planning Commission
GPO Box 1691
HOBART TAS 7001

Email: tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Ramsay

WHALEBACK RIDGE RENEWABLE ENERGY MAJOR PROJECT ISSUE OF ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENT NOTICE

I am writing in response to your letter dated 13 March 2024, in which you referred the Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy Major Project (the Major Project) to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under section 60Y of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA).

In accordance with sections 60ZA(1) and 60ZC(3) of LUPAA and as a relevant regulator for the Major Project, I advise that the EPA has identified matters to be contained in the assessment criteria issued for the Major Project to be addressed in the Major Project Impact Statement. These matters are provided in the enclosed Assessment Requirement Notice.

I note that section 60ZC(6) of LUPAA requires the EPA Board to provide guidance, as defined under section 74(4) of EMPCA, to the Development Assessment Panel, particularly with regard to:

- (a) the potential environmental impacts arising from the proposed activity; and
- (b) the issues arising from the proposed activity which might give rise to public concern; and
- (c) the level of assessment required.

Please note that Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the enclosed Assessment Requirement Notice form indicative guidance for the information base that the EPA Board requires the proponent to establish under section 74(9) of EMPCA in order for the Board to undertake the environmental impact assessment of the Major Project as required by section 60ZC(4) of LUPAA, in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles set out in section 74 of EMPCA (as modified by 60ZC(9) of LUPAA). The Board's Assessment Requirement Notice (ARN), as altered by a future Alteration Notice is taken to be the guidance the Board must assess the Major Project against under EMPCA.

I further note that Attachment 1 of the enclosed Assessment Requirement Notice provides advice received by the EPA from Public Health Services at the Tasmanian Department of Health in accordance with section 74(5) of EMPCA, which identifies considerations for the Major Project Impact Statement to have regard to.

Further guidance on the environmental impact assessment of the Major Project can be provided by the EPA, as required, in response to requests from the Development Assessment Panel.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Ella Jackson on 0472 560 543 or via email at ella.jackson@epa.tas.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Wes Ford', with a stylized, cursive script.

Wes Ford

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Encl: *EPA Board's Assessment Requirement Notice – Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy Major Project*