

Our Ref: A24/336279

16 August 2024

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

Dear Mr Ramsay,

**SES RESPONSE TO TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION'S REFERRAL  
LETTER - BELL BAY WIND FARM MAJOR PROJECT – REQUEST FOR  
COMMENTS - ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

Please find the following comments in response to your letter of the 13 August 2024, regarding the declaration of the Bell Bay Wind Farm as a Major Project and requesting comments from the State Emergency Service (SES) regarding assessment criteria.

SES understands the Bell Bay Wind Farm Major Project proposal comprises use and development for up to 28 wind turbine generators, a battery energy storage system, 8km of new transmission line and supporting infrastructure, a new substation and switchyard, meteorological masts, internal roads, a construction compound (including site offices, workshop, storage facilities, a concrete batching plant and small quarries for the extraction of construction materials).

The Major Project is proposed to occupy a 2780ha site northeast of George Town, with an estimated operational life of the wind farm and all its associated infrastructure of 30-years, at the end of which it will be fully decommissioned, and the site rehabilitated.

Given the scale, complexity and relative remoteness of the Major Project over a large project site and with a diversity of permanent and temporary infrastructure proposed, SES recommends that the major project impact statement address criteria relating to:

- flood risks to, and posed by, the development for the life of the development;
- the potential of the development to cause increased risk from flood to other values; and
- emergency management risks and requirements for the full life of the project (this includes the construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation phases).

SES notes that the *Major Project Proposal – Bell Bay Wind Farm 1 May 2024*, prepared by EQUIS and available from the Tasmanian Planning Commission website, does not identify flood hazard as a potential hazard for the proposal. SES have reviewed its Tasmanian Strategic Flood Mapping for the 1% AEP current climate design flood event for the proposed site and can confirm that flood hazards do exist across the site. SES can make the Tasmanian Strategic Flood Mapping available to the proponents for the Major Project

upon request, noting that it is suitable for strategic purposes only, not for design and construct purposes.

Please contact the Manager Flood Policy Unit – Chris Irvine, on 6173 2700, or by email [chris.irvine@ses.tas.gov.au](mailto:chris.irvine@ses.tas.gov.au) , if you wish to discuss any of the matters raised in this submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mick', followed by a horizontal line.

**Mick Lowe**  
Executive Director SES and Volunteers