

27 February 2024

Contact: *Justine Clarke*

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Our ref: *D2024/12748*

Ellena Tsanidis  
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure  
Locked Bag 5022  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Ms Tsanidis

### **Aquila Wind Farm (SSD-67667971) – Request for SEARs**

Thank you for your Major Projects Planning Portal referral dated 15 February 2024, requesting WaterNSW's input into the SEARs for SSD-67667971. It is understood that the proposal is for up to 48 x 6.2 megawatt (MW) Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) (each with a blade-tip height of up to 250 m) comprising an installed capacity of up to 300 MW, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) approximately 100 MW (2-hr), temporary and permanent meteorological masts, vegetation removal, earthworks, ancillary civil and electrical engineering infrastructure, temporary construction facilities and temporary concrete batching plants, and permanent worker facilities.

The project is located within the Burrendong Dam water catchment area and close to WaterNSW lands surrounding Lake Burrendong.

WaterNSW has reviewed the project scoping report and draft SEARs and requests the proponent address the following in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to protect the quality of the local water supply and WaterNSW land and assets.

- Impact assessment – the applicant must consider and identify the direct and/or indirect impacts to WaterNSW lands and infrastructure when preparing the EIS. This may include (but is not limited to) impacts on access and WaterNSW water monitoring sites (surface and groundwater).
- Hydrological assessment – the EIS must include a hydrological assessment of the potential impacts on the quantity and quality of surface and groundwater resources within the Burrendong Dam water catchment area from the proposal. The assessment should address the potential impacts in relation to erosion and sediment, downstream water availability and flow interference, and potential pollution of watercourses during construction.

As this is a SSD, any flood works or licensing approvals will be assessed by others.

WaterNSW would appreciate being advised when the EIS is exhibited, and requests the Department continues to consult with us on any proposal that may impact on our assets, or infrastructure, using the email address [Environmental.Assessments@waternsw.com.au](mailto:Environmental.Assessments@waternsw.com.au).

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Justine Clarke at [justine.clarke@waternsw.com.au](mailto:justine.clarke@waternsw.com.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AK", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**ALISON KNIHA**  
**Environmental Planning Assessments & Approvals Manager**