

# Crookwell 3 Wind Farm Heritage

## Purpose

Anderson Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd was engaged to undertake an indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage impact assessment for the proposed Crookwell 3 Wind Farm.

The purpose of the assessment was to investigate the potential impact of the proposed activity on indigenous, non-indigenous and cultural heritage values, and provide recommendations to mitigate potential impacts.

A desktop assessment was undertaken to review historical databases and heritage lists and then a field survey was undertaken to identify the possible past use of the land by Aboriginal people based on the land's topographical, vegetation, sheltering and historical hunting resources.

## Key Findings and Impacts

In relation to non-indigenous heritage all identified non-indigenous heritage items were well outside any proposed development areas. Furthermore, the heritage significance of the identified items was found to be low and these were not listed under the Heritage Act 1977 or on any other heritage register.

In relation to indigenous heritage, the results of the surveys undertaken detected 10 new locations where artefacts were identified during the field assessments. The heritage significance of these artefact deposits are low to moderate.

The results of the surveys detected the sites and artefact finds included in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Survey results of indigenous artefacts found on site

Heritage Type	Site and Contents	Location	Impact Significance
Non-indigenous	Hillview Park Property homestead and surrounding buildings and the Leeston homestead.	Within and surrounding Crookwell 3 East.	Not listed. No non-indigenous heritage items would be impacted by the proposal.
Indigenous	Site 1 17 stone fragments	Adjacent to a dam which is filled from a low level gully line. The site is located above the dam on the upstream side.	Low-moderate: There is moderate potential for other artefacts below the surface in this location. This site could be avoided as part of the design.
Indigenous	Site 2 8 artefacts including quartz and Grey Silcrete fragments. A general mix of cores, flakes and a small tool.	Up the hill approximately 300 metres from site 1 along existing farm track.	Low-moderate: Turbine A17 is close to site 2. Impacts on site 2 can be mitigated or avoided through further micro-siting of the turbine.
Indigenous	Site 3 Single Brown Silcrete flake (tool)	Approximately 40 metres to the east of the marked peg A13.	Low: only 1-2 artefacts found on site.
Indigenous	Site 4 Two Grey Silcrete Flakes.	Towards the northern extremity of the proposed Greywood Siding Road Access.	Low: only 1-2 artefacts found on site.
Indigenous	Site 5 Two Grey Silcrete flakes with a maximum size of 31mm.	Towards the northern extremity of the proposed Greywood Siding Road Access. South of site 4.	Low: only 1-2 artefacts found on site.
Indigenous	Site 6 A single flaked core of Grey Silcrete.	Along the proposed Greywood Siding Road access.	Low: only 1-2 artefacts found on site.
Indigenous	Site 7 One Brown Silcrete Flake.	Along the proposed Greywood siding Road Access near to site 8	Low: only 1-2 artefacts found on site.
Indigenous	Site 8 41 very small fragments of Brown Silcrete.	On the eastern side of the proposed Greywood Siding Road access.	Moderate: A transitory site. The erosion makes it likely that there are few (if any) artefacts left below the surface.
Indigenous	Site 9 1 fragment of Grey Silcrete being 37mm X 27mm X 12mm.	Creek crossing on the property Wollondilly. High disturbance.	Low: A highly disturbed environment and only one artefact.
Indigenous	Site 10 7 fragments of quartz generally scattered around this site area.	Wollondilly Property	Low: Low quality site and low number of artefacts.



**Site 1:** Showing area above the dam with high soil exposure and some sheet erosion where 17 artefacts were found. This area is fed from a gully upstream to the right of the photo.



**Site 1:** Artefacts found at site 1.



**Site 2:** Showing the track where the artefacts were located.



**Site 2:** Artefacts found at site 2.



**Site 8:** Location



**Site 8:** Artefacts found at site 8.

The proposed turbine locations are unlikely to impact any sites other than A17 which is close to Site 2. Impacts on Site 2 can be mitigated or avoided through further micro-siting of the turbine. Potential impacts on Sites 1 and 8 can also be avoided in the detailed design of the project.

## Response to Findings

The following actions are recommended in order to preserve areas of potential archaeological significance;

- A Cultural Heritage Management Plan be prepared in collaboration with the Pejar Local Aboriginal Land Council to reduce and mitigate the impacts of the project on artefacts.
- If artefacts cannot be avoided then cooperation with Pejar LALC should be undertaken to determine the management of these artefacts.
- The Cultural Heritage Management Plan should outline management strategies for the management of unrecorded sites within the site.
- If impacts cannot be avoided then further investigation is recommended for Sites 2 and 8.
- Once the proposed access track extents and other disturbance areas are pegged on the ground, additional targeted surveys of these areas should be undertaken.
- Careful road planning should be undertaken to utilise and upgrade existing roads where possible to achieve an overall plan to minimise soil disturbance.