

Date: 30th April 2015

The Secretary
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Mr Mike Young

Re: Proposed Modification of the Crookwell 2 Wind Farm Development Consent (DA 176-8-2004-i)

Dear Mr Young,

Development consent (DA 176-8-2004-i) was initially granted for the project on 10th June 2005 for the construction and operation of up to 46 wind turbines and associated works. The development consent was subsequently modified on 29th June 2009.

This letter is to notify the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) that Crookwell Development Pty Ltd proposes to shortly lodge an application to further modify the development consent under section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Site Location

The site is located on Crookwell Road, approximately 14 km south-east of Crookwell and 30 km north-west of Goulburn, as shown in **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1. Context Map

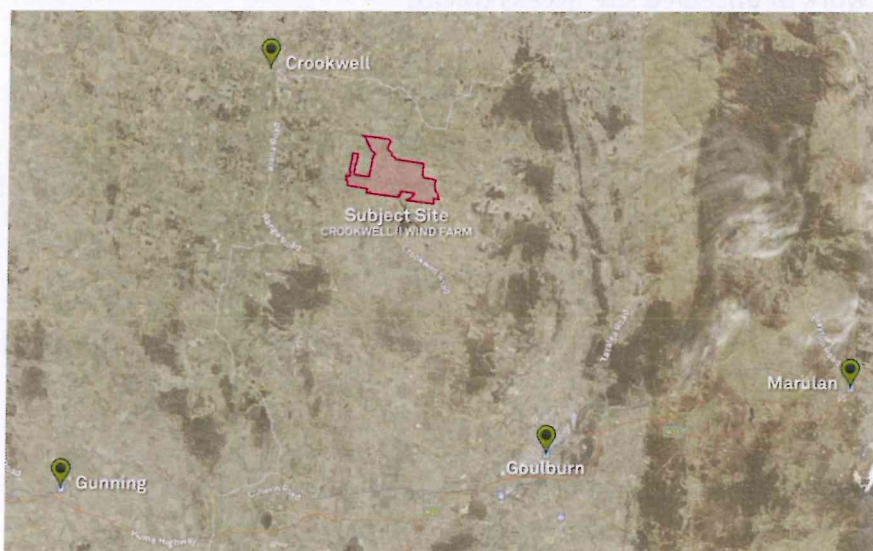
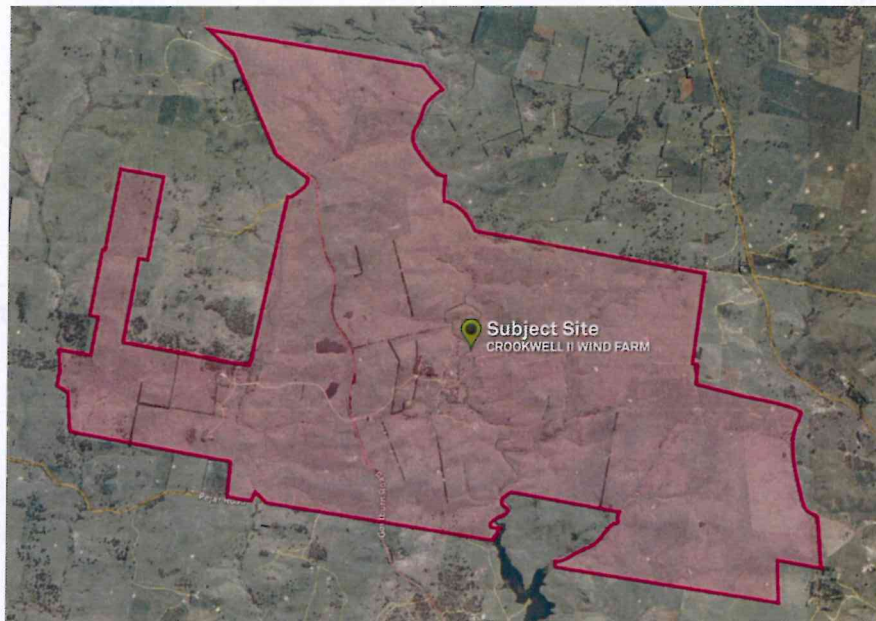


Figure 2 shows the project area and its immediate vicinity:

Figure 2. – Project Site Area



Background

The project originally approved by the Department on 10th June 2005, was as follows:

- 46 wind turbines (with a ground to blade tip height of approximately 107 metres), each consisting of:
 - A 67-metre steel tower;
 - A nacelle; and
 - Three 39-metre blades;
- A network of unsealed site access tracks;
- Site access road entrance points;
- A network of underground electrical and communication cables;
- A 33/330kV transformer substation and high voltage switchyard;
- A grid cut-in to connect the high voltage switchyard to the existing 330kV electricity transmission line; and
- Site control room and facilities building.

On 29th June 2009, modification-1 was approved. Modification-1 incorporated a number of changes to the project, including:

- Increase in hub height to up to 80 metres;
- Increase in blade length to up to 47 metres;
- Increase in the rotor diameter to up to 96 metres;

- Increase in blade tip height to up to 128 metres;
- Relocation of 20 turbines;
- Change of access road location and crossing of unused rail corridor; and
- Obstacle night lighting for aviation;

Proposed New Modification Application

Crookwell Development Pty Ltd proposes to shortly lodge a second modification application (Modification-2) under section 75W of the EP&A Act.

There have been significant advances in turbine technology since the date of the original development consent and modification-1. These new turbine models would enable the project to generate more energy per turbine, and an increase to the overall energy yield of the project while, at the same time, reducing the overall impact of the project by:

- decreasing the number of turbines by up to 12 turbines; and
- reducing the overall project footprint and disturbance area.

At this stage, it is contemplated that Modification-2 will include:

- A reduction in the number of approved turbines from 46 to up to 34;
- An increase of the hub height from 80 metres to up to 100 metres;
- An increase of the blade size from 47 metres to up to 64 metres;
- An increase of the rotor diameter from 96m to up to 130 metres;
- An increase of the blade tip height from 128 metres to up to 160 metres;
- Update to the obstacle night lighting design;
- Grid cut-in reconfiguration and inclusion of a taller replacement transmission line tower for TransGrid, and associated communications infrastructure;
- Approval for any deemed subdivision arising from the grant of the Leases for the wind farm; and
- Approval for the subdivision of the high voltage switchyard land for TransGrid;

The revised Capital Investment Value of the project has been estimated at up to \$212,000,000.

A revised site plan incorporating the turbine layout changes to be introduced by the modification-2 is shown in **Appendix 1**.

At this stage, it is contemplated that a formal modification application form and an Environmental Assessment report (EA) will be submitted to the Department in [June/July 2015]. The EA is currently being prepared and will set out the modifications proposed for the project and assess the impacts arising from those modifications. In particular, the EA will incorporate the following reports:

- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Shadow Flicker Assessment
- Aviation Impact Assessment
- Telecommunication Impact Assessment
- Traffic Impact Report

Supplementary biodiversity and heritage assessments will also be included within the revised EA, although no changes to turbine locations and associated ground infrastructure is proposed at this stage (other than those turbines to be deleted). Updated mitigation measures will also be included as part of the EA, addressing the findings of the abovementioned specialist reports.

Community consultation

We intend on undertaking further community and stakeholder consultation through a range of methods and tools, so that the community is properly informed on the proposed modification to the project. The intended approach for community and stakeholder consultation would include the following actions:

- Direct mail out to households of a project newsletter to within 2-3km of the project site;
- Local newspaper advertisements; and
- Consultation through door knocks and/or similar meetings with adjoining and land owners within 2-3km of the project site.

Please notify myself and our Principal Planner Mr Adam Coburn (Mecone Pty Ltd) if the Department has any comments on the above approach, contact details as follow:

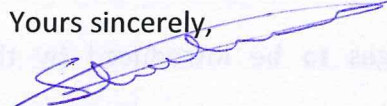
Mr Shaq Mohajerani

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Mr Adam Coburn

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Yours sincerely,


Shaq Mohajerani

Projects Development Manager

On behalf of Crookwell Development Pty Ltd

CROOKWELL DEVELOPMENT PTY LTD
CROOKWELL 2 WIND FARM
INDICATIVE TURBINE LAYOUT

MAP LEGEND

- Public Roads
- Existing 330kV Transmission Line
- Crookwell 2 Wind Farm Site Boundary
- Turbines proposed to be kept in the layout
- Turbines proposed to be removed from layout
- Dwellings / Buildings

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APPENDIX 1

