

Attachment 2

For Public Notice via Internet

REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978*

Title of Proposal: **Berrybank Wind Farm**

Proponent: **TME Australia Pty Ltd**

Description of Project:

TME Australia Pty Ltd proposes to develop a wind farm comprising up to 100 turbines and associated on-site infrastructure. The site would straddle the Hamilton highway 12 km east of Lismore.

Decision:

The Minister for Planning has decided that an Environment Effects Statement (EES) is not required for the Berrybank Wind Farm as described in the referral accepted on 23 November 2007.

Reasons for Decision:

- The project sites mostly consist of cleared agricultural land, with considerable scope to adjust the siting of turbines and associated infrastructure to avoid adverse effects on indigenous flora and Aboriginal cultural heritage, if either listed species or significant heritage places are identified in detailed site investigations.
- The preliminary ecological investigations indicate that the risks to threatened fauna are likely to be low because of the limited suitable habitat on the wind farm site. There are opportunities for identifying measures to avoid or minimise potential effects on fauna through a bird utilisation survey and targeted surveys for significant fauna.
- Potential effects on landscape values and residential amenity are likely to be of local significance only, with some potential for mitigation.
- The potential environmental effects of the project can be adequately assessed through the planning permit process under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Date of Decision: 9 January 2008