

## **Points on Rye Park Wind Farm Schedule 2 Administrative Conditions**

**Written on behalf of Rye Park Action Group**

**By**

**John McGrath**

**Secretary/Vice Chair Yass Landscape Guardians**

1. 8. I Query "The Applicant may microsite the wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure without further approval provided".

- a) They remain within development corridor shown on figures in Appendix 2
- b) No wind turbine is moved more than 250 meters from relevant GPS coordinates shown in Appendix 2.
- c) the revised location of a wind turbine is at least 50 metres from existing hollow bearing trees;

**I ask what happened to the original 100 metre stand back on hollow bearing trees? That distance in itself was insufficient to reduce blade impact from any flying vertebrae that may either utilise the said hollow bearing tree for daytime roosting, such as owls bats etc, nor is or ever was 100 metres in anyway a desirable stand back that alone a revised down 50 meters!**

What does this mean that the applicant, who was/is Trustpower now trading as Tilt and in the case of Rye Park Wind Farm, now trading as Rye Park Renewable Energy Pty Ltd. has the right to a 500 metre variant on the initial micro siting? Trustpower's representative Michael Head stated on the night of the Rye Park Community Consultation Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016 that it's not they Trustpower, nor the NSW Department of Planning that has the final say in micro siting.

In fact it's the turbine manufacturer that has that final say in siting each turbine.

Is that correct?

I ask then why does the NSW Department of Planning not have any say in where the final resting point/siting of each turbine will be?

**Who's protecting the locals in this case?**

2. 9 **Explain Staging? Have them spell this out!!** No other industry offers staging of a project as does the Wind Farm Industry.

3. 14 **Protection of Public Infrastructure**-will this be another case of Gullen Range Wind Farm builder Goldwind leaving roads and smashed causeways in a deplorable state in the Crookwell Shire area as witnessed and photographed by me 24<sup>th</sup> August 2014 day before they completed Gullen Range?

### Schedule 3

#### Environmental Upon Request

1. What land is referred to in acquisition, is it the full property or that the applicant will acquire the footprint only, is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

2. Section 3 within 5 years an non associated residence within 4 kilometres of any wind turbine may ask the applicant to implement visual impact mitigation.

**Explain this please** and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

**Five years is not good enough!**

3. Section 5 Lighting

- Uses best management practice for bat deference

**What is best bat deference based on ?**

4. Shadow Flicker

6. The applicant must ensure that shadow flicker from operational turbines does not exceed 30 hours per year at any non-associated residence.

**2 things here who will police that 30 hour period**

**Repeat who will police this? Does this admit there is shadow flicker?**

5. Biodiversity

Restrictions on land clearance to 50.2 hectares of Box Gum Woodland.

I query how this can be accomplished given the nature of forestation of the area most of the remaining 84 'approved' wind turbines will be constructed in.

**Will fallen dozed timber be windrowed or removes completely?**

After experiencing this on the property that I grew upto when the precursors to Transgrid, the NSW Electricity Commission used then contractors EPT to construct the 03 330KV transmission line, the amount of fallen trees were simply windrowed leaving hard to control habitation for feral pests such as rabbits, foxes etc.

Therefore I am asking what's the plan for bulldozed timber within along the footprint of Rye Park Wind Farm's footprint?

**Who will police this?**

6. Section 21

Within 2 years of the commencement of construction , unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the applicant must retire the required biodiversity credits, to the satisfaction of the OEH.

**Explain this?**

**Who will police this** and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

7. Biodiversity Management Plan

-controlling weeds and feral pests

- controlling erosion; and

-bushfire management-Remember "Currandooly" Fire 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017 started within the Capital Wind Farm footprint supposedly started by a so called crow! That burnt 3387 hectares.  
**Explain this?**

**Who will police this** and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

#### 8. Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan

Dot points to ponder

- Minimising raptor perches??????????????
- Prompt carcass removal-does this imply blade strike or is it a case that flying animal may **expire** within the wind farms footprint???

**Explain this?**

**Who will police this** and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

#### Rehabilitation Objectives

9. 37 the Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

**Explain this?**

**Who will police this** and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

### Schedule 4

#### Land Acquisition.

#### 2. Sales offer to the Applicant.

**Explain this?**

**Who will police this** and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

## Schedule 5

### Auditing

6 (a) suitable qualified and independent team of experts

#### Explain this?

**Who will police this** and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

Will this audit be done via a desktop assessment ? As was admitted to me by one of their representatives in a phone call on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

NSW OEH simply did an environmental assessment for Rye Park Wind Farms Environment Assessment via Desk Top Assessment. Unacceptable

### 7. Wind Turbine Height

**Who will police this**, on initial installation and into the future upon replacements of these towers, and is this stipulation passed from applicant to a succession of owners of Rye Park Wind Farm?

I am well aware that there's repeated reference to the fiasco that is Gullen Range Wind Farm by representatives of NSW Department of Planning was a mistake.

**How are the public that are affected by Wind Farm Installations in NSW guaranteed that this "mistake" will never happen again?**

Therefore I plead with yourselves the members of the PAC to recommend that there be a Moratorium placed on further approval/construction of either present or future Wind Farms, until there's clear and a decisive written report completed on how the points I have addressed here will be implemented and handled.

I look forward to your positive implementations of the points I ponder here in reference to Rye Park Wind Farm

Regards

John McGrath

