

New South Wales Government Independent Planning Commission

21 December 2023

Mr John Wood 35 Lerra Road Windella NSW 2320

via email:

Dear Mr Wood,

Bowmans Creek Wind Farm (SSD-10315)

Thank you for your letter dated 20 December 2023 to Professor Alice Clark, Panel Chair, regarding the Bowmans Creek Wind Farm project (SSD-10315) currently before the NSW Independent Planning Commission (Commission) for determination. I am responding on behalf of Professor Clark.

I have considered the matters you have raised in that letter, as well as your previous letter dated 26 November 2023 and my response dated 29 November 2023.

I acknowledge the concerns raised in your letter dated 20 December 2023. However, for the reasons set out in in my previous correspondence, I maintain the view that there has been no denial of procedural fairness afforded by the Panel in respect of the determination process for the Bowmans Creek Wind Farm project.

As stated in my 29 November 2023 correspondence, Mr Pearson has no conflict of interest that would mean he would not be an impartial decision maker in determining this Project. A reasonable, fair minded lay observer would not think that Mr Pearson might not bring an impartial mind to the matter, such that there is a perceived conflict.

As also stated in my 29 November 2023 correspondence, affected members of the public have been afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard in respect of the Project, at the Public Meeting held on 7 December 2023 and through lodging written submissions. The Commission has already provided an extension to the timeframe for written submissions on the Bowmans Creek Wind Farm project to 5pm on Thursday 21 December 2023 in acknowledgement of the fact that this end of year period is a busy time. That timeframe is objectively reasonable, noting that the Department's Assessment Report has been exhibited on the Commission's website since 20 November 2023; responses to requests for further information provided by the Applicant were exhibited on the Commission's website on 12 and 18 December 2023; and a response to a request for further information provided by the Department was exhibited on the Commission's website on 13 December 2023. Accordingly, no further extension to the timeframe for the lodgement of public submissions will be made.

I confirm that, in accordance with your request, your letter dated 20 December 2023 will not be treated as a submission. I apologise for the delay in publishing your previous letter dated 26 November 2023 on the Commission's website and confirm this has now been done.

The Commission will treat your letter received on 20 December 2023 as correspondence and will publish a copy of your letter, and this response, on its website.

Yours sincerely,

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Stephen Barry Planning Director