



Professor Mary O'Kane AC  
Chair  
Independent Planning Commission  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Professor O'Kane

**Crudine Ridge Wind Farm – Modification 1 (SSD 6697 MOD 1)**

The Department has received an application from Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Nominees Pty Ltd to modify the development consent for the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm under section 4.55(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The project is located approximately 45 km south of Mudgee in the Mid-Western Regional Council and Bathurst Regional Council local government areas.

The key aspects of the proposed modification (Modification 1) include:

- a reduction in the maximum number of wind turbines from 77 to 37 to align the development consent with the Commonwealth (EPBC Act) approval; and
- a revised road design for Aarons Pass Road and associated increase in vegetation clearing by approximately 5.05 hectares.

The Department publicly exhibited the modification application and accompanying Environmental Assessment from 5 December 2018 to 19 December 2018 and received 242 submissions, including 98 objections, 129 submissions in support of the proposal and 3 comments. Advice was provided from 6 NSW government agencies, including Mid-Western Regional Council and the Office of Environment and Heritage, who did not object to the modification request. During the assessment process, the Department visited the site, held a community information session and consulted with local residents, Council and relevant government agencies.

The Independent Planning Commission is the consent authority for the modification application for the purposes of section 4.55(2) of the EP&A Act, because more than 25 public submissions by way of objection were received during the exhibition of the application.

Based on its assessment, the Department considers that the modification request is approvable, subject to the recommended revisions to the development consent conditions. I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report, recommended revised conditions and other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

For further information or to arrange a briefing, please contact Mr Stephen O'Donoghue, A/Director Resource and Energy Assessments, on 0477 345 626.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Planning Services**

17/05/2019