

Bullawah Wind Farm

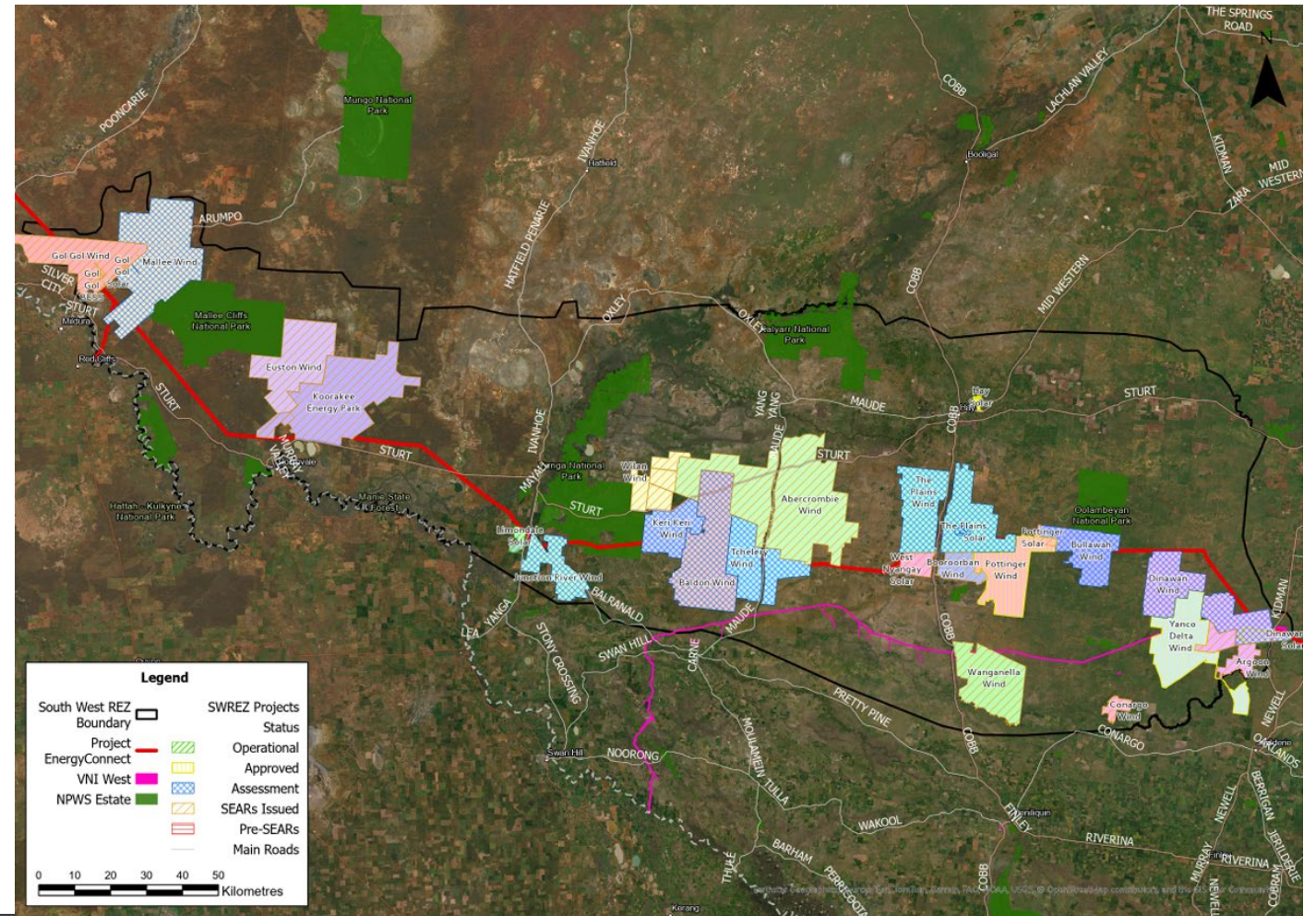
DPHI Presentation to the NSW Independent Planning
Commission – Public Hearing

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1 September 2026

Project Overview

- Proposed 141 turbine layout and BESS
- Generating capacity of 804 MW and 359 MW storage
- 28 km southeast of Hay within the Hay Shire, Murrumbidgee and Edward River LGAs
- Within the South West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ)
- Received access rights to Project Energy Connect transmission line (under construction) for 262.3 MW



Strategic Context



- Up to 804 MW generating capacity to power ~463,400 homes
- Consistent with the *NSW Climate Change Policy Framework* of net zero emissions by 2050
- Project would play an important role in:
 - Increasing renewable energy generation and capacity
 - Firming the grid by including 359 MW / 718 MWh of energy storage
 - Contributing to the transition to a cleaner energy system as coal fired generators retire

Overview of assessment process



Engagement



EIS was exhibited in August/September 2024



The Amendment Report was received in April 2025



18 state government agencies provided advice



Submissions from Hay Shire Council, Edward River Council and Murrumbidgee Shire Council



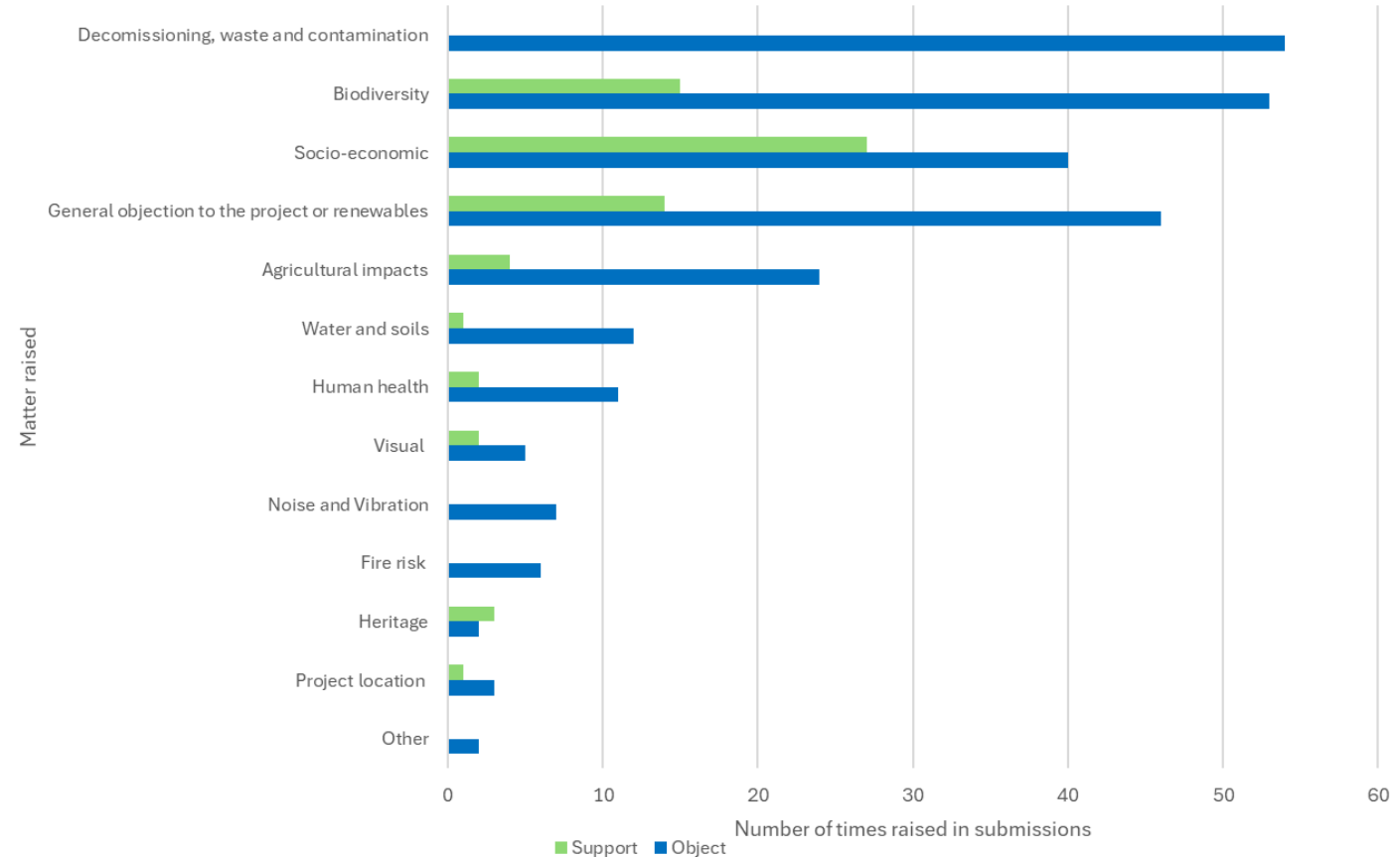
EIS: 87 submissions (17 support; 68 object; and 2 comment)



Independent Expert Advisory Panel for Energy Transition provided advice

Public Submissions

- 93% of submissions were from more than 50 km from the project.
- Objections raised:
 - Decommissioning and waste
 - Biodiversity
 - Renewable energy projects generally
 - Agricultural impacts
- Supporting submissions raised employment and economic benefits and support for the energy transition.



Summary of the assessment

Key issues

- Biodiversity
- Traffic and transport
- Visual
- Heritage
- Socio-economic
- Cumulative

Biodiversity - Overview

- ~637 ha of clearing at the project site and 19 ha for road upgrades
 - Majority non-threatened native grassland and shrubland
- Threatened ecological communities (TEC): 80.41 ha would be impacted, including:
 - 57.61 ha of 464.92 ha of Sandhill Pine Woodland (endangered under the NSW BC Act)
 - 22.8 ha of 114.74 ha of Myall Woodland (endangered under the NSW BC Act)
 - 4.92 ha of 42.56 ha of Weeping Myall Woodlands (endangered under the Commonwealth EPBC Act)

Threatened Flora and Fauna

- 5 threatened flora and 4 threatened fauna species would be impacted
 - All 5 flora listed under the NSW BC Act, 4 listed under the Commonwealth EPBC Act
 - All 4 fauna listed under the NSW BC Act, 2 listed under the Commonwealth EPBC Act
 - Species credits generated for 8 of 9 species; 0 credits generated for Plains-wanderer

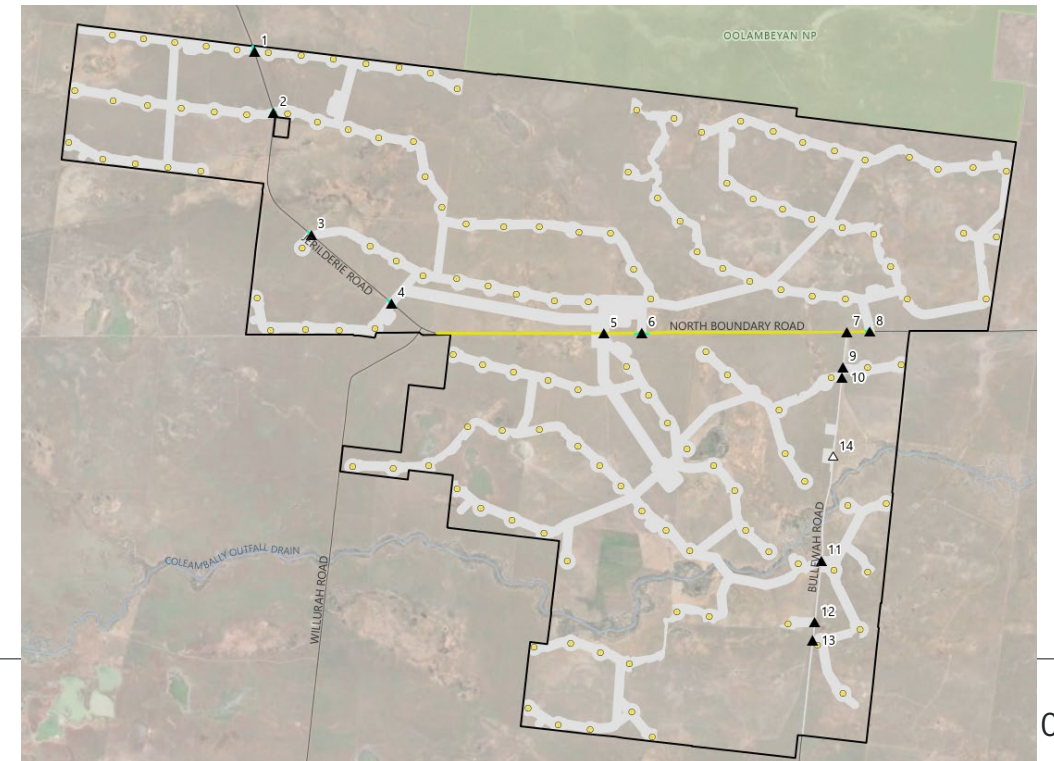
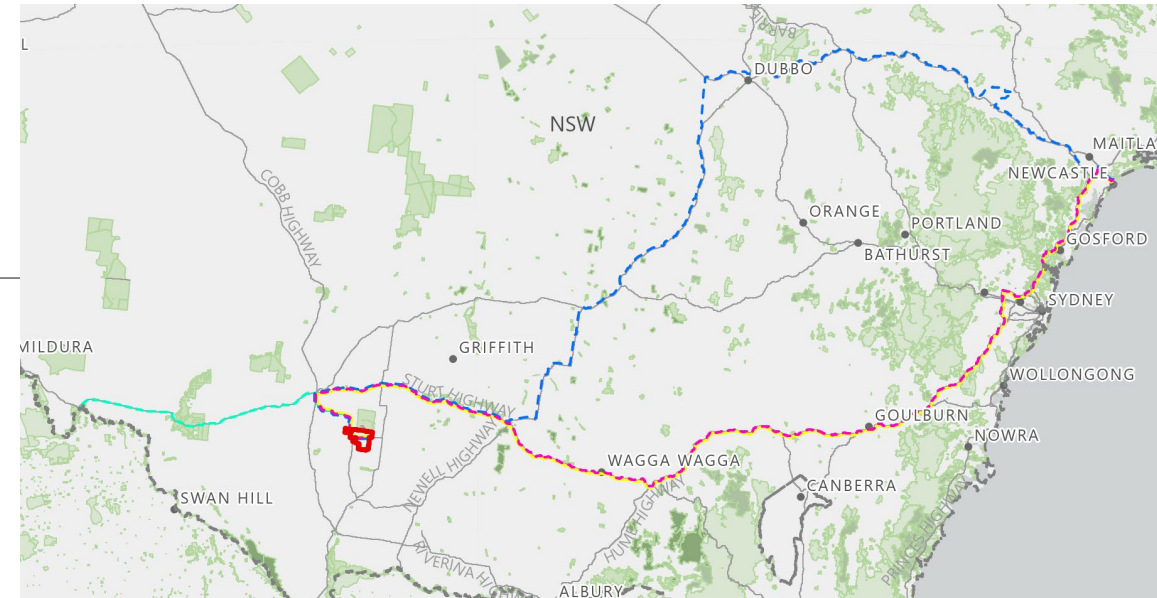
Biodiversity – Plains-wanderer

SAll entity

- Species at risk of Serious and Irreversible Impacts (SAll)
 - Endangered under the BC Act and critically endangered under the EPBC Act
- 1,456 ha mapped important habitat at the site – not impacted
 - Applicant's ecologist considered 170.86 ha of suitable habitat would be impacted
- NSW DCCEEW CPHR considered SAll likely
- Obtained advice from Independent Expert Advisory Panel for Energy Transition (IEAPET)
 - Scale of impacts would not be large enough to contribute significantly to the risk of extinction
 - Potential cumulative impacts across SW REZ
- Department considered not SAll
 - Significant habitat remaining
 - Regional Plains-wanderer Working Group and Management Strategy for adaptive management

Traffic and transport

- Maximum seven OSOM deliveries per working day at peak
- Four routes for project OSOM vehicles:
 - from the Port of Newcastle: three routes with varying maximum loaded height restrictions
 - from Port Adelaide, via Robinvale
- Applicant assessed OSOM vehicle dimensions for an 80 m blade from Port to Hay, 100 m blade from Hay to site
- Primary access via Cobb Highway / Jerilderie Road (for both the project and approved Pottinger Wind Farm)
- State and local intersection road upgrades to facilitate OSOM movements and higher traffic volumes
- Bespoke recommendations:
 - Consultation with port authorities and NSW Office of the Cross-Border Commissioner
 - limit blade length to 80 m
 - channelised left treatment at Cobb Highway / Jerilderie Rd



Community Benefits

- Benefit to the community through 380 construction jobs, expenditure in the local economy
- \$2.5 billion in capital investment, with \$1 billion invested into the NSW economy
- Benefit sharing consistent with the NSW Benefit Sharing Guideline of \$1,050 per MW generated with 85% of benefits to host councils and 15% to First Nations initiatives
- An on-site workforce accommodation camp is proposed (345 beds)
- Recommended conditions require:
 - Accommodation Camp Management Plan (prepared in consultation with Councils and NSW Health), with measures to provide health and medical services
 - Accommodation and Employment Strategy to investigate options for prioritising the employment of local workers

DPHI Evaluation

- Suitably located in the SW REZ, with good wind resource and proximity to Project EnergyConnect transmission line
- Project designed to minimise impacts, including to native vegetation, threatened species habitat, and Aboriginal cultural heritage sites
- Assists in transitioning the electricity sector from coal and gas, consistent with NSW policy
- Has capacity for up to 804 MW generating capacity that would power about 463,400 homes, saving over 1,725,600 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year and a 359 MW BESS
- Achieves appropriate balance between utilising wind resource and minimising environmental impacts
- Stimulates economic investment, providing flow-on benefits to the local community
- Should the Commission determine to approve the project, the Department has provided recommended conditions which would effectively manage the project's impacts.

