



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

Granite Hills Wind Farm

Environmental Overview
Community Consultation Committee Meeting

26 March 2018
Dr Robert Jessop

- SMEC has been involved November 2015.**
- Provide independent environmental assessment and advice.**
- Major documents to date:**
 - **Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA)**
 - **Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessment (PEIA)**
 - ***Draft* Environmental Impact Assessment (*In prep*) (EIA)**

Commonwealth (e.g.)

- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

NSW (e.g.)

- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*
- *Heritage Act 1977*
- **State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007**
 - ✓ 'Electrical generating works' permitted under the I SEPP

- Wind Energy: Assessment Policy**
- Wind Energy: Visual Assessment Bulletin**
- Wind Energy: Noise Assessment Bulletin**
- Best Practice Guidelines. For Implementation of Wind Energy Projects in Australia**
- National Wind Farm Development Guidelines [Heritage]**
- Commonwealth Significant Impact Guidelines for Matters of National Environmental Significance**

- Early ecological and assessment work targeted PEIA submission.**
- The PEIA assists NSW DPE to assess the proposal and issue the SEARs, which are addressed in the EIA.**
- The EIA is prepared in parallel with the Development Application.**
- The Commonwealth environmental approval process is undertaken in parallel through the Referral process.**

General wind farm description and legislation

Key environmental components:

- *Landscape, visual context*
- *Noise and vibration*
- *Biodiversity*
- *Heritage*

- *Geology, soils and water*
- *Traffic and transport*
- *Aviation*
- *Telecommunications*
- *Human health*
- *Bushfire*
- *Waste and contamination*
- *Blade throw, glimmer*

- Community consultation summary**
- Environmental risk assessment matrix**
- Adverse impact management and monitoring plan**
- General conclusion**
- Appendices: Technical documents**

- Biodiversity: Bird and bat strike, threatened flora and fauna, native vegetation clearance – offset plan**
- Visual Assessment: Key locations, modelled landscape views, photomontages**
- Noise: Key locations, modelled noise and on-site monitoring**
- Traffic and Transport: Steeple Flat Road modifications, temporary vehicle increase**
- Water and soils: Little water availability, assess water source**
- Minimal issue with other environmental aspects**

- Complete relevant technical assessments for the EIS**
 - Compile and summarise information in the EIS**
 - Assess potential adverse impacts and consider management measures**
 - Submit completed draft EIS for public comment**
 - Reassess EIS information subject to public comment**
 - RE-submit completed EIS for DPE consideration**
 - Follow Commonwealth process in parallel**
- QUESTIONS?**