**Public Comment Invited**

**Dundonnell Wind farm Project**

**Environment Effects Statement**

**Planning permit applications PL15/075, PL15/074 and 2015/23858**

**Written submissions on the exhibited documents are now invited. Submissions close at 5.00pm on Friday 21 August 2015**

**The Project**

Dundonnell Wind Farm Pty Ltd (DWFPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Trustpower Australia (NZ) Ltd (Trustpower) proposes to construct and operate the Dundonnell Wind Farm Project (the Project) in western Victoria approximately 225 km west of Melbourne.

**The Environment Effects Statement**

The Victorian Minister for Planning determined on 21 January 2013 that an Environment Effects Statement (EES) was required for the proposal under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* (EE Act) due to the potential for significant environmental effects. The EES process will inform decision-making on the proposal under Victorian law.

DWFPL has prepared an EES for their project in accordance with Scoping Requirements issued for this project. The EES provides an assessment of the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of constructing and operating the different components of the project. The EES is now on exhibition for public comment for a period of 6 weeks.

**Planning Permit Applications**

DWFPL have also lodged planning permit applications under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (P&E Act)as follows:

* Permit application 2015/23858 for the wind energy facility;
* Permit application PL15/075 for the transmission line; and
* Permit application PL15/074 for the substation.

Following a request of the DWFPL and Moyne Shire, the Minister for Planning has decided under Division 6 of Part 4 of the P&E Act to call-in the planning permit applications. Notification and further details for these planning permit applications is provided at the end of this advertisement.

The Minister for Planning is now the responsible authority for all of the applications for a planning permit under section 97D of the P&E Act.

**EPBC Act Approval**

The project (EPBC 2012/6557) also requires approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act); the relevant controlling provisions are sections 18 and 18A (listed threatened species and communities) and listed migratory species. The Victorian EES process is accredited to assess the relevant impacts under the EPBC Act and will inform the EPBC Act approval decision.

**Inquiry Process**

An Inquiry will be appointed by the Minister for Planning under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* to consider the exhibited EES, supporting documents and public submissions. The Inquiry will also be appointed as a Panel under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to consider the planning permit applications. This means there will be no further opportunity for public comment or objections on these permits beyond the current EES process.

Information on the Inquiry process and timetable for the hearings will be published on the Internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au/dundonnell-wind-farm-inquiry as it becomes available.

The Inquiry will hold a Directions Hearing on Wednesday 9 September 2015 at Glenormiston College to establish necessary arrangements and timetable for the public hearing. Submitters will be sent a request to be heard form which should be returned by the date on the form for those wishing to present to the Inquiry. Public hearings are expected to commence on 28 September 2015 at Glenormiston College.

# How to Access and Respond to the EES or Planning Permit Applications

**Viewing the project documents**

The EES, the planning permit applications and all supporting documents, have been placed on exhibition for public comment from **13 July 2015 until 21 August 2015** and may be examined at the following locations during the hours indicated:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Place  | Hours of opening |
| Moyne Shire Council1 Jamieson Avenue, Mortlake(03) 5558 7888 | Mon-Fri 8.45am–4.45pm |
| Moyne Shire Council Princes Street, Port Fairy (03) 5568 0555 | Mon-Fri 8.45am–4.45pm  |
| Mortlake Library101 Dunlop Street, Mortlake(03) 5599 2410 | Wednesday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm and 1.30 pm - 4.00 pmFriday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm and 1.30 pm – 5.00 pmSaturday 10.00 am - 12.00 noon |
| State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street, Melbourne.(03) 8664 7000  | Mon–Thurs 10am–9pm, Fri–Sun 10am–6pm |
| State Government OfficeLevel 4, corner Fenwick St and Little Mallop St, Geelong (03) 5226 4667 | Mon-Fri 8.30am–4.30pm (please ring to make appointment) |
| Regional Development Victoria OfficeOld Police Station, 9 Gilles Street, Warrnambool(03) 5561 4135 | Mon-Fri 9am -5pm |
| Department of the Environment33 Allara Street, Civic, Canberra ACTEPBC.referrals@environment.gov.au | Mon-Fri 9am–5pm(please email to make appointment) |
| Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning1 Spring Street, Melbourne(03) 8392 6393 | Mon-Fri 9am-5pm(please ring to make appointment) |

The documents are also available at [www.dundonnellwindfarm.com.au](http://www.dundonnellwindfarm.com.au)

**Obtaining and purchasing copies of the EES**

Free copies of the EES Summary document and a USB containing the complete EES Main Report and supporting documents are available at all display locations. Note: If you experience any problems downloading any of the exhibited documents or require assistance accessing them please contact Trustpower Australia on the phone number or email below.

To purchase hard copies of the EES and supporting documents contact:

Trustpower Australia

Email: Dundonnell@trustpower.com.au

Phone: 1800 122 823

* Hard copies of the EES Main Report (Volume 1) can be purchased for $25.00
* Hard copies of the supporting technical reports and documents (Volume 2) $75.00
* Hard copies of the certificates of title, statements of consent & letters of support (Volumes 3-4) $25.00

**FORM 2**

**Notice of an Applications for Planning Permits** s. 52(1)

The land affected by the applications is located at various properties within the Moyne Local Government Area including a wind farm site in the town of Dundonnell, a substation located adjacent to the Mortlake Gas Power Station and a 38 km transmission line from the wind farm site to the substation.

The applications are for permits for:

* Permit application 2015/23858 for use and development of a wind energy facility, earthworks, business identification signage, removal of native vegetation and alteration of access to a road zone category 1;
* Permit application PL15/075 for use and development of a transmission line (utility installation) associated with a wind energy facility and removal of native vegetation;
* Permit application PL15/074 for use and development of a substation (utility installation) in association with a wind energy facility.

The applicant for the permit is Trustpower.

The application reference numbers are 2015/23858, PL15/075 and PL15/074, respectively.

The Minister for Planning is the responsible authority for the applications for planning permits.

You may look at the planning permit applications and any documents that support the applications at 1 Spring Street, Melbourne, the State Government offices in Warrnambool and Geelong and Moyne Shire Council offices in Port Fairy or Mortlake or the Mortlake Library as previously detailed.

This can be done during office hours and is free of charge.

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the Minister for Planning as the responsible authority

An objection must be made to the Minister for Planning as the responsible authority in writing, include the reasons for the objection and state how the objector would be affected.

The Minister for Planning as the responsible authority must make a copy of every objection available at its office for any person to inspect during office hours free of charge until the end of the period during which an application may be made for review of a decision on the application. These objections can be viewed at Planning Panels Victoria by appointment only.

The Minister for Planning will not decide on the applications until at least one month after the Minister’s Assessment has been made under the EE Act which will be at least 14 days after the date the last notice under section 52(1) or (1AA) of the P&E Act is given.

Moyne Shire is not the responsible authority for the planning permit applications. Moyne Shire will conduct their own separate community consultation in line with Council’s policy at a later date. Moyne Shire can be contacted on 1300 656 564

**How to lodge a submission or an objection**

Interested persons and organisations wishing to comment on the exhibited documents, specifically the EES and the planning permit applications, including the supporting documentation, are invited to make written submissions. Submissions close at **5.00pm on Friday 21 August 2015**. Please note that all submissions will be considered relevant to the EES, planning permits and EPBC Act approvals unless otherwise stated in the submission.

All submissions will be treated as public documents and must state the name and address of the person making the submission. Anonymous submissions will not be considered.

Please note the P&E Act requires that an objection to a planning permit must include the reasons for the objection and state how the objector would be affected.

Submissions will be treated in accordance with the Department’s privacy policies. These policies can be found at <http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/privacy> and the Privacy Collection Notice can be viewed at www.delwp.vic.gov.au/dundonnell-wind-farm-inquiry

Submissions or objections can be made by email to planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au by mail to:

Dundonnell Wind Farm Project EES Submissions

Minister for Planning

c/o Planning Panels Victoria

GPO Box 2392

MELBOURNE VIC 3001

All submissions will be made available for any person to inspect, at the office of Planning Panels Victoria, Ground Floor, 1 Spring Street, Melbourne, by telephone appointment only on (03) 8392 6393.

**Questions**

Questions relating to the **Dundonnell Wind Farm Project** should be directed to Trustpower Australia – Phone: 1800 122 823 or

Email: Dundonnell@trustpower.com.au

Questions relating to the **EES process** or **Planning Permits** should be directed to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning – visit [www.delwp.vic.gov.au/dundonnell-wind-farm](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/dundonnell-wind-farm), Phone: (03) 9223 5316 for the EES process or (03) 9098 8929 for the Planning process or Email: environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au

Questions relating to the **public Inquiry process** and **how to lodge a submission** should be directed to Planning Panels Victoria – Phone: Greta Grivas (03) 8392 6393 or planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au