

COPPABELLA

Wind Farm

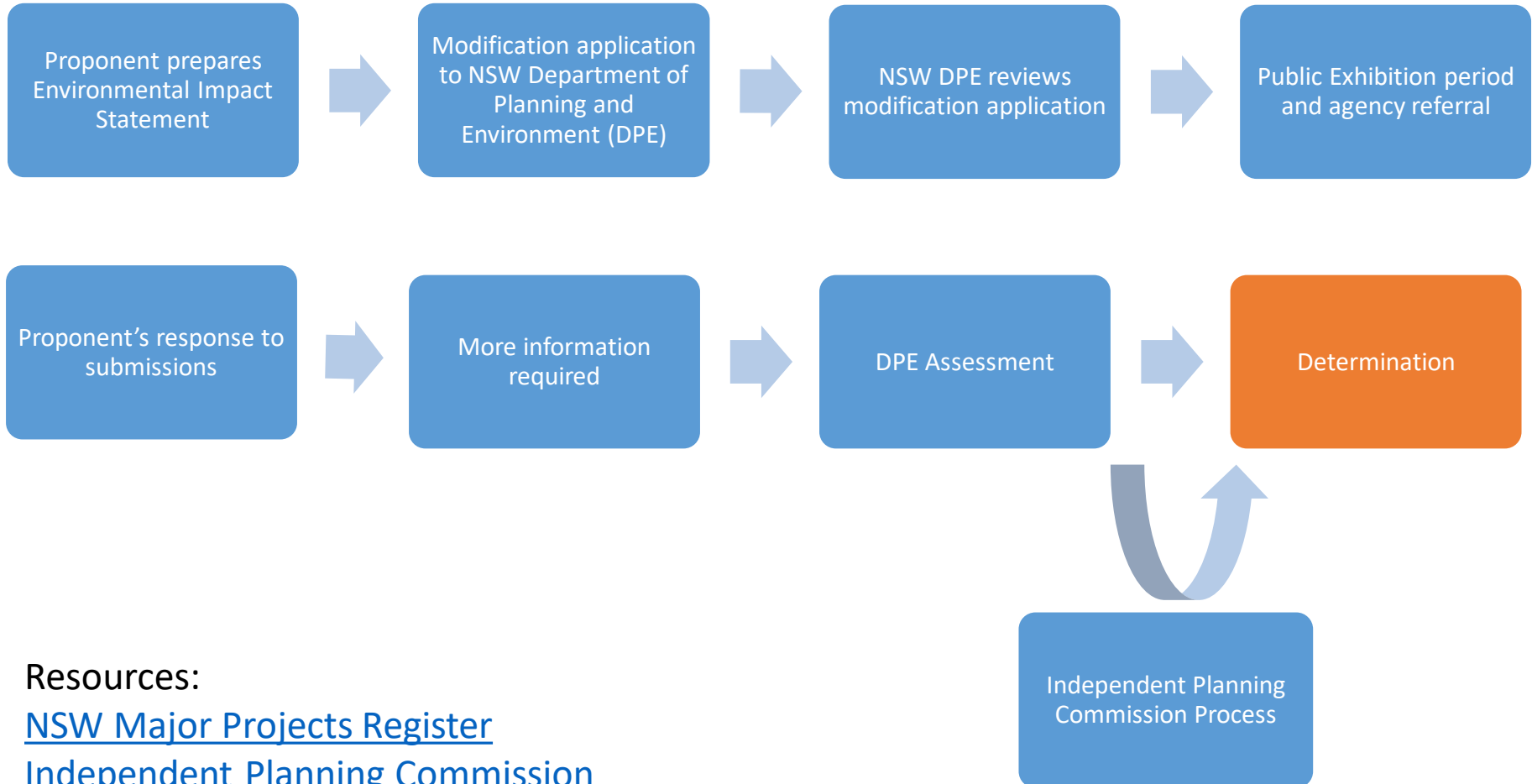


Project Briefing

Community Consultative Committee
21st February 2019

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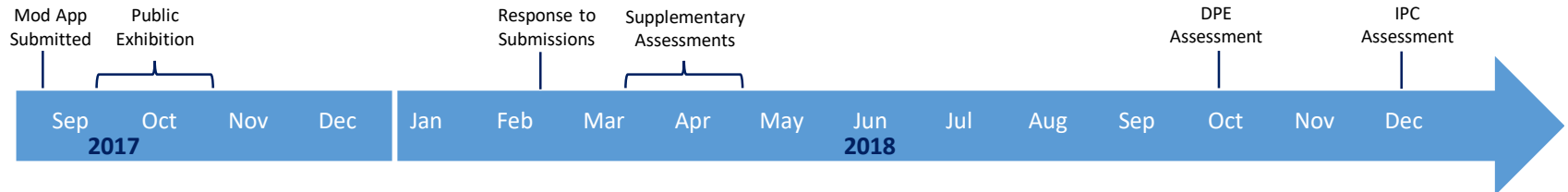
- Modification Application Update
- Project Update
- Community Engagement Update



Resources:

[NSW Major Projects Register](#)

[Independent Planning Commission](#)



Department of Planning & Environment (DPE) Assessment

In addition to the vegetation impact allowance and wind turbine tip height, DPE have made a number of notable additions to their proposed Conditions of Consent:

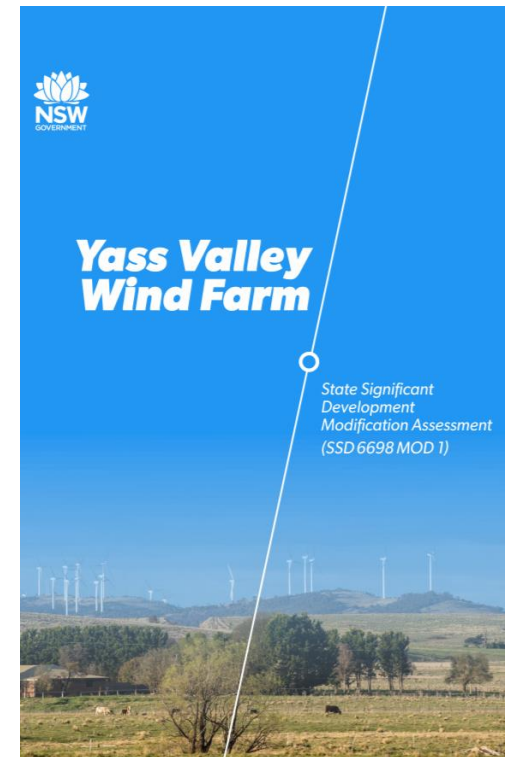
- Removal of 4 wind turbines
- Limit to removing no more than 4 hollow bearing trees on Whitefields Road
- Requirement to seal Whitefields Road
- Inclusion that any aviation hazard lighting, if required, utilises an aircraft detection lighting system

Extracts from the Assessment's conclusion below:

"The Department has assessed the merits of the modification in accordance with the relevant requirements of the EP&A Act.

With the implementation of the amended conditions, the Department is satisfied that the modified project achieves a reasonable balance between maximising the efficiency of the wind resource development and minimising the potential impacts on the local community and environment"

"On balance, the Department considers that the proposed modification has merit, and is in the public interest"



Independent Planning Commission (IPC) Process

The modification application was referred to the IPC in October 2018. The process is outlined below:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ➤ Referral received from DPE | 16 th Oct '18 |
| ➤ Meeting with Proponent | 29 th Oct '18 |
| ➤ Meeting with DPE | 29 th Oct '18 |
| ➤ Public Meeting | 12 th Nov '18 |
| ➤ Site Visit | 13 th Nov '18 |
| ➤ Written submissions deadline | 19 th Nov '18 |
| ➤ Determined Consent subject to conditions | 10 th Dec '18 |



**CHANGES TO YASS VALLEY WIND FARM
RECEIVE CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**

10 December 2018

The state's Independent Planning Commission has approved with conditions changes to a wind farm in the NSW Southern Tablelands.

Chinese wind power giant Goldwind sought approval from the Department of Planning & Environment to modify its development consent for the Yass Valley Wind Farm, 23km west of Yass.

- The proposed changes to the project include:
- a reduction to the maximum number of turbines to 75 (down from 79)
 - an increase to the maximum height of the turbines from 150m to 171m and to the rotor diameter (from 121m to 142m)
 - sealing and redesigning the site access along Whitefields Road to reduce vegetation clearing from 4.85 to 0.49 hectares
 - increasing the vegetation clearing limit on the wind farm site for endangered ecological communities from 68.3 to 179.8 hectares, comprising predominantly derived native grassland, and
 - a number of design refinements and project scope clarifications.

The Department referred the modification application to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) for final decision after receiving 82 public objections to the proposal.

IPC Chair, Professor Mary O'Kane AC, appointed a three-member panel, comprising Mr Alan Coultis (Panel Chair), Professor Zaha Lipman and Mr Adrian Pilton, to determine the application.

The Commissioners met separately with the proponent, representatives of the Department, and Yass Valley Council and inspected the project site and surrounding area. They also held a public meeting in Yass to listen to the local community's views.

Having carefully considered all the evidence, as well as the issues raised by the community at the public meeting and in written submissions, the Commission has today (Monday 10 December 2018) determined that consent should be granted subject to conditions.

The Commission, in its Statement of Reasons for Decision, concluded "The modified project is substantially the same for which consent was originally granted" (by the former Planning Assessment Commission), noting there was "no introduction of elements or new turbines that are any more prominent or out of

Construction Preparation

- Tender for main contractor progressing
- Announcement of preferred contractor expected in March

Early works planning

- Highway intersection upgrade
 - RMS finalising design and cost
- Whitefields Road upgrade
 - Design being fine tuned with Council

Grid Connection

- TransGrid connection now based on direct connection to Yass substation.
- This solution will eliminate the approved switchyard to the North of the project.
- TransGrid conducting Review of Environmental Factors (REF)
- Requires upgrades to the poles on the existing 99M between the project and the Yass substation. Likely to switch from a dual pole design to a single pole design with the 99M on the Northern side and the project cables on the Southern side
- TransGrid currently seeking tenders for upgrade works

Recent sponsorships

- Binalong Brahmans
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in Yass

Information Centre

- Reduction to opening hours:
 - Friday 3:30pm – 5:30pm
 - Saturday 9am – 12noon
- Ongoing presence at Binalong Community Markets

