

Minister for Energy and Renewables
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21st November 2025

Ms Cecily Rosol MP
Member for Bass
haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Rosol

Thank you for your question in Parliament on behalf of the Tomahawk Protection Society, regarding consultation opportunities for ACEN's proposed North East Wind project.

The statutory steps that ACEN's proposed North East Wind project will go through require public consultation. The North East Wind Project was declared a Major Project in 2022 under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA). This triggers a streamlined but rigorous assessment process that includes opportunities for public input. The Major Project Impact Statement (MPIS), once prepared, will also be publicly exhibited, allowing further community input before final decisions are made.

The project is also undergoing assessment by the Australian Government Environment Minister under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), which includes additional consultation requirements for environmental impacts.

The Government's expectations regarding community engagement are clearly spelt out in the Guidelines for Community Engagement, Benefit Sharing and Local Procurement which are available on the Renewable, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) website.

The Government understands the impact new developments, including proposed windfarms, can have on communities and I encourage everyone with an interest, including the Tomahawk Protection Society, to engage in the consultation processes to make sure all issues can be taken into account in the statutory decision-making.

Interested members of the community looking for more information on the Major Projects Assessment process and opportunities to contribute are encouraged to go to:

<https://www.planning.tas.gov.au/assessments-and-hearings/current-assessments-and-hearings/north-east-wind-assessment-criteria>

Yours sincerely

Hon Nick Duigan MLC
Minister Energy and Renewables