Community views sought on wind farm proposal near Wellington

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure is giving the community 60 days – double the usual exhibition period – to comment on a proposed wind farm near Wellington in central NSW.

Infogen Energy is proposing to build up to 33 wind turbines outside the township of Bodangora, some 20 kilometres north-east of Wellington. If approved, the proposed wind farm would be capable of generating up to 120 megawatts (MW) of electricity.

Over a full year, electricity production is expected at 333 GWh - enough energy to power 35,000 homes annually (based on an average NSW household electricity consumption).

Infogen’s proposal also includes associated infrastructure such as access tracks, local road upgrades, electrical connections between the turbines and a new substation, as well as temporary and permanent meteorological masts and a maintenance facility.

The new substation would connect the existing 132 kV transmission line between the Wellington substation and Beryl, some 80 kilometres to the east.

The proponent was required to take account of the draft NSW wind farm guidelines in its environmental assessment.

The proposal is on extended exhibition for 60 days from Friday 8 June until Monday 6 August 2012.

To comment on the proposal, members of the public are invited to inspect the project’s environmental assessment:

- online at http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au
- during regular business hours at the department’s Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney
- at the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, Level 2, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown;
- at Wellington Council, corner of Nanima Crescent and Warne Street, Wellington; and
- at Wellington Library, corner of Percy and Maughan Streets, Wellington.

Submissions can be:

- faxed to (02) 9228 6455;
- posted to Major Projects Assessment, Department of Planning & Infrastructure, GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001, or
- emailed to plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au or via the entry for the project on the department’s website http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

Media contact: Laurel-Lee Roderick, 9228 6128 or 0429 153 139
NOTE: The Department of Planning and Infrastructure is issuing this media release to encourage the community to take part in the planning process. However, it is the role of the proponent (either through its documents published on our website or otherwise) to provide further specific details about the proposal.