Independent decision for Crudine Ridge Wind Farm proposal

The community will have another opportunity to have its say on a proposal to build the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm in the State’s Central West after it was referred to the Planning Assessment Commission for final determination.

The Department of Planning and Environment’s assessment has recommended the proposal be approved, following changes that would see no impacts on the view of residents on Sallys Flat Road.

The Department has also recommended conditions including:

- Mitigation measures to screen residences within four kilometres of the wind farm from the view impacts of wind turbines
- Requiring the company to reach an agreement with six properties, where the impacts on views could be not be sufficiently screened
- A biodiversity offset strategy
- Noise limits.

The proposal was originally exhibited for three months in 2012 and 2013 and then modified and re-exhibited for a month at the end of 2013.

A spokesperson for the Department said that its recommended conditions would address the impacts, while still allowing the community to realise the project’s benefits.

“The project would generate up to 420 gigawatt hours of electricity annually, which is enough to power about 56,700 homes,” the spokesperson said.

“The project would also save about 363,500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year, and contribute towards the national Renewable Energy Target.

“The Department has recommended strict conditions to manage the impacts on local views and environment.”

The final decision will now be made by the Planning Assessment Commission.

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