

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: Southerly Ten
Subject: New submission from EIS Submission
Attachments: Gippsland-Coastal-Assembly-Submission-to-the-Commonwealth-Environmental-Impact-Statement-EIS.pdf

Declaration and Consent

Privacy

✓ I have read the [Privacy Collection Statement](#) and acknowledge that personal information I provide in my submission may be used or published as part of the EIS process

Publishing

✓ I acknowledge that a copy of my submission may be published in its entirety on this website and/or a government website.

Personal Information

✓ Where personal information about other people (including photos) is included in my submission, I have notified them of the contents of this [Privacy Collection Statement](#) and obtained their consent to their personal information being disclosed and published

Intellectual Property

✓ I am entitled to deal with the intellectual property rights (including copyright) of all material (both mine and any third party's) in my submission and have obtained necessary consent(s) from any and all third parties owning the copyright for such dealings.

Representative Information

Are you making this submission on behalf of someone else and/or an organisation?

Yes

Please provide the full name of the person and/or an organisation you are submitting on behalf of

Gippsland Coastal Assembly

Your Details

Name

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

Confirm Email Address

[REDACTED]

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

How would you like to make your submission?

- I would like to upload it as an attachment

Upload your submission and/or supporting documents

- [Gippsland-Coastal-Assembly-Submission-to-the-Commonwealth-Environmental-Impact-Statement-EIS.pdf](#)

Submission Declaration



This submission does not contain any material that could be regarded as defamatory or offensive to any person

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Gippsland Coastal Assembly Submission to the Commonwealth Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Introduction

The **Gippsland Coastal Assembly** supports the development of offshore wind as an important contributor to Australia's clean energy future if local voices continue to be heard through the lifetime of the project. Our support is based on a simple principle: the protection of Gippsland's unique coastal and marine environments must occur alongside the transition to renewable energy.

The Assembly believes that successful offshore wind development will be measured not only by the electricity it generates, but by the confidence coastal communities have that their environment is being protected, monitored and managed transparently.

We therefore recommend that the following principles form part of every offshore wind approval.

1. Community Benefits for Coastal Communities

Coastal communities hosting offshore wind developments should receive long-term, meaningful benefits that reflect their role as custodians of Gippsland's coastline.

The Assembly supports a Community Benefit Framework that:

- begins when construction commences;
- benefits all affected coastal communities;
- is designed and administered with strong local representation; and
- invests in projects that strengthen coastal resilience, environmental restoration and community wellbeing.

2. Independent Environmental Monitoring

Environmental protection must remain visible throughout the life of every project.

The Assembly supports:

- independent environmental monitoring;
- comprehensive baseline surveys before construction;
- monitoring throughout construction, operation and decommissioning;
- publicly available environmental data through an online reporting platform; and
- regular independent scientific review.

The Assembly also encourages the use of modern technologies such as drone surveillance, aerial imagery and remote sensing to provide communities with regular visual updates of coastal conditions and construction activities.

3. Consider the Offshore Wind Zone as One Connected System

Government should consider cumulative environmental assessments across all proposed offshore wind developments.

Managing cumulative impacts rather than assessing projects individually will provide stronger protection for Gippsland's marine environment and ensure that construction timelines can be scheduled carefully to reduce local impacts.

4. Local Voices Must Continue Beyond Approval

Community engagement should continue throughout construction, operation and eventual decommissioning. Maintaining community confidence requires an enduring local presence that provides trusted information, facilitates meaningful participation and ensures community concerns continue to be heard long after project approvals have been granted.

The Gippsland Coastal Assembly supports the establishment of a **Coastal Community Offshore Wind Energy Information Centre** to serve as a permanent hub for the affected coastal communities. The Centre would provide a central location for public engagement, education and communication relating to offshore wind and other renewable energy developments affecting Gippsland's coastline.

Community confidence is built through genuine participation, transparency and accountability—not one-off consultation.

Conclusion

The Gippsland Coastal Assembly believes offshore wind and healthy coastal environments can coexist and supports this approval.

Achieving this requires more than meeting environmental approval conditions. It requires genuine partnerships with coastal communities, transparent environmental monitoring and ongoing local stewardship of the coastline.

The Assembly looks forward to working with governments, Traditional Owners, industry, scientists and local communities to ensure Gippsland's coastline remains healthy, resilient and valued for generations to come.