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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: Southerly Ten
Subject: New submission from EIS Submission
Attachments: Star-of-the-South-Environmental-Impact-Statement-.pdf

Declaration and Consent

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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

South Gippsland Shire Council

Your Details

Name

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[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

- [Star-of-the-South-Environmental-Impact-Statement-.pdf](#)

Submission Declaration

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Star of the South Environmental Impact Statement

South Gippsland Shire Council notes Southerly Ten's exhibition of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Star of the South Offshore Wind project.

South Gippsland Shire Council is interested in the project for several reasons.

1. South Gippsland is located next to Wellington Shire, where the project will be located off the coast.
2. The ports likely to be used for operations and maintenance for the project are located at Barry Beach, in South Gippsland.
3. Some turbines may also be visible from the eastern section of Wilsons Promontory National Park, which is located within our Shire.

Council is also aware that South Gippsland community members have shown strong interest in the project from a range of perspectives, including its environmental, social and economic impacts.

Council, via a resolution on 21 September 2022, provided in-principle support for offshore wind projects, like this one, subject to several points including, that Council:

1. *Endorses the submission to the Federal Government for Offshore Renewable Energy Infrastructure Area Proposal: Bass Strait Off Gippsland, which provides 'in principle' support towards offshore renewable energy projects, excluding the proposed zone's visual impacts, identified adjacent to southwestern coastline and bays of the municipality, recognising that:*
 - a. *the energy landscape is changing and that there is a sense of urgency to prepare and react to developments proposed in or around South Gippsland;*
 - b. *there is a lack of information on the direct and indirect impacts that proposed projects located near the South Gippsland coast may have on the South Gippsland community and the position of the community is not yet fully understood;*
 - c. *the Federal Government and Offshore Wind Energy Proponent's community engagement processes continue to be promoted and inclusive of the community with Council an active participant;*
 - d. *the Gippsland Proposed Area for investigation and its proximity to shore has raised community concerns, especially their tourism and visual amenity impact and closeness to South Gippsland's iconic natural attractions, environment, seascapes and main tourism and coastal holiday townships – Venus Bay,*



Walkerville, Waratah Bay, Sandy Point and Tidal River (Wilsons Promontory National Park);

- e. the proposed projects would bring welcome employment and investment opportunities;*
- f. there is a significant shortfall of housing to accommodate rapid increases in new workforces or population;*
- g. local government is not appropriately resourced to meet rapid increases in the demand for services, planning and infrastructure, including upgrading assets and facilities and requests resourcing and funding support from other levels of government to help address these challenges and maximise opportunities for the community;*
- h. there needs to be a greater understanding of direct community benefits and potential offsets for our community, including but not limited to, potentially reduced electricity tariffs for community and locally impacted land holders;*
- i. the coastal and marine environment must be protected and that any proposed developments do not have an adverse impact; and l. proposed 'on land' transmission routes utilise existing infrastructure and transmission routes, including placing transmission lines underground, to minimise the impacts to existing land use such as farming and tourism.*

- 2. Continue to work with Offshore Renewable Wind Energy proponents, developers, businesses, State and Federal Government towards achieving beneficial outcomes for the South Gippsland community.*

Council is particularly interested in maximising local employment and business opportunities associated with the use of the Barry Beach ports. This support is balanced by the need to minimise negative impacts on the environment and ensure our community remains well informed about project activities.

Council also notes the need for an appropriate Payment in Lieu of Rates (PiLoR) – or similar - framework for offshore wind projects. While these projects have the potential to deliver significant benefits, they may also create increased demand on local infrastructure, services and communities.

Potential impacts may include additional pressure on local roads, housing, accommodation, community facilities, emergency management, planning resources and other Council services. A fair and consistent offshore payment framework would help ensure councils and communities hosting or supporting major renewable energy projects are appropriately recognised and able to respond to local impacts.

Council notes the extensive environmental investigation works undertaken to prepare the draft EIS. Council also acknowledges the range of opportunities provided for the community to engage with and comment on the project.



If you require further information, please contact Council on [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]