



Phone 1800 187 183
Internet www.lallalwindfarms.com.au

18 April 2018

To members of the community

Re: Selection of peer reviewer for noise assessment by Sonus

Dear Community Member,

As previously communicated, the Lal Lal Wind Farms has committed to a rigorous noise compliance regime. To re-iterate our compliance regime, we have committed to the following which are above and beyond what is required of the project under our planning conditions:

1. A new pre-construction noise assessment. Conducted by Sonus, which has had no prior involvement with the project, has been appointed to undertake this assessment from first principles
2. Peer review of Sonus' noise assessment by an EPA-accredited auditor who will be selected following a Request for Proposal process
3. Post-construction noise compliance testing by an acoustician who is independent of both incumbent acoustician, Marshall Day, and Sonus

We have now completed our Request for Proposal process in selecting a suitable peer reviewer for the Sonus noise assessment and are writing to you to inform you of the outcome of the selection process. We have outlined the candidates who we have assessed, and the outcome of our assessment based on our selection criteria.





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Our criteria for selection included:

Selection criteria	Arup	Flinders University	AECOM	Golder Associates
Auditor	David Spink	n/a	Harry Grynberg	Bruce Dawson (Industrial Facilities)
Acoustic team	Kym Burgemeister	Kristy Hansen	Alex Dundon	Mark Tulau
EPA accreditation	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Qualification of auditor	David is an accredited EPA auditor for Ports and Lead Auditor Health and Environmental Management Systems More than 25 years of experience in environmental management in both private and public sectors across the energy, water, transport and industrial sectors, preceded by several years in industry and training	n/a	Harry has over 40 years' experience Technical Director with the Melbourne office of AECOM Accredited by the Victorian EPA as an Environmental Auditor (Industrial Facilities). Has conducted or participated in audits at a wide range of sites including wind farms, oil producing facilities, industrial liquid waste treatment sites, chemical manufacturing sites, transport depots, metal working sites and others	Previously engaged with the EPA Victoria for 24 years Involved in auditing industrial operations, including the Kooragang Island Facility Experience with a wide range of industry issues, covering most sectors including chemical, petroleum, metal processing, food, waste, landfill, land development and remediation and waste water treatment



Selection criteria	Arup	Flinders University	AECOM	Golder Associates
Acoustic qualification of team	<p>Works in architectural acoustics for residential and commercial buildings, and environmental noise and vibration assessments for transport infrastructure and industrial sites</p> <p>Specialises in vibration isolation systems for performance spaces, vibro-acoustic design for railway systems and environmental assessments of wind farms</p>	<p>Kristy Hansen has been working in the area of Wind Farm Noise for the past six years</p> <p>Has developed a computer code to implement the CONCAWE and ISO 9613-2 prediction models</p>	<p>Alex Dundon is a Principal Acoustics Engineer and leader of the Adelaide acoustics team with over 10 years' experience on a variety of projects</p>	<p>Mark Tulau has over 30 years of experience in the fields of environmental monitoring and management</p> <p>Has conducted environmental noise assessment for gas fired power station, international container port, mining and mineral processing, tunnel ventilation system, airport</p>
Prior experience within the wind farm industry	<p>David previously conducted peer review for a number of wind farms including, Te Rere Hau, Dundonnel, Stockyard Hill, Lal Lal, Bulgana, Macarthur</p>	<p>Chief Investigator on an NHMRC grant that was awarded in 2016, in response to a targeted call into research on wind farm noise and health effects</p> <p>Has been involved as an expert witness for the Proposed Palmer Wind Farm Development from August 2016 – March 2017</p>	<p>Spent 5 years in Ontario, where Alex become one of the leading experts in Ontario on wind turbine noise, and had a strong reputation amongst both wind energy developers and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment</p> <p>Alex was both sought independently for advice and a member of advisory groups consulted by the Ontario Provincial Government for input on regulatory changes</p>	<p>Both Bruce and Mark have not had any prior direct experience assessing wind farm noise</p>
Prior involvement with Lal Lal Wind Farms	<p>Previously conducted a peer review of Marshall Day's acoustic assessment at the panel hearing</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>
Potential conflicts of interest	<p>None declared</p>	<p>None declared</p>	<p>None declared</p>	<p>None declared</p>



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We would like to highlight that according to the latest Victorian Planning Guidelines, released in November 2017, a peer review of noise assessment is required to be conducted by an EPA accredited auditor.

'All noise reports must be accompanied by a peer review from an environmental auditor appointed under Part IXD of the Environment Protection Act 1970 verifying that the report or plan is suitable (p.33, Policy and Planning Guidelines for Development of Wind Energy Facilities in Victoria).'

https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0030/9696/Policy-and-Planning-Guidelines-for-Development-of-Wind-Energy-Facilities-in-Victoria.pdf

We also note that in exercising their functions and duties pursuant to the Environmental Protection Act, EPA accredited auditors owe a primary duty of care to the environment and to the people of Victoria above all others (including their client). This is as outlined in the "Environmental Auditor Guidelines for Conducting Environmental Audits" (Publication 953.2, Aug 2007), which also contain explicit ethical and technical responsibilities of the auditors. In addition, the EPA undertakes a rigorous process in appointing auditors and regulating the conduct of auditors, with suspension or revocation of appointment if breached. The EPA also requires auditors to undertake audits only within their field of expertise and that of their expert support team.

After considering all of the above, and our selection criteria, we have selected AECOM as the preferred company to conduct the peer assessment review, our key rationale includes:

- EPA accredited auditor, a criteria that we are required to adhere to as per the latest Victorian planning guidelines for wind farms
- Most relevant experience in acoustics, with a team with direct experience in peer reviewing of wind farm noise. We especially value Alex's prior experience in Ontario assisting the Ontario Provincial Government for input on regulatory changes in the wind farm industry,
- Complete independence given that AECOM and Harry Grynberg have not previously been involved in Lal Lal, and Alex has recently returned to Australia and has not had extensive involvement in the wind industry in Australia

We will be facilitating a community information session in the coming weeks once the AEMO peer review has been completed to provide an opportunity for Sonus to present its findings, and for AECOM to present the results of its peer review.

We will be happy to provide further information on the selection process if this is of interest. Please contact Tracey Ward on 1800 187 183 or by email info@lallalwindfarms.com.au

Yours faithfully

Lal Lal Wind Farms Pty Limited

