



Brad Hazzard MP

Minister for Planning & Infrastructure

Minister assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITY RIGHTS RESTORED FOR WINDFARMS

The NSW Government has restored the community's appeal rights in the development application process for nine current wind farm projects lodged under the former Labor Government.

"The projects will now be considered as State Significant Developments instead of being dealt with under the Part 3A transitional provisions left over from Labor," Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

"We changed Labor's rotten laws in 2011 ensuring major projects like wind farms would be considered in an open and transparent process, by delegating decisions to Planning and Infrastructure and the independent Planning Assessment Commission.

"The community can have confidence that their voices will be heard on wind farm projects in NSW and that projects will be assessed and decisions made at arm's length from the Government."

Under the transitional arrangements, the wind farm companies were given a deadline to provide an adequate Environmental Assessment.

"The deadlines on these proposals have not been met so the Government will now transition them (as State Significant Developments) to the Liberals-Nationals planning system that stresses openness and transparency and the community's voice being heard.

"Under Labor there were no appeal rights for the community or the proponent and decisions were made by the Minister with no right of appeal," Mr Hazzard said.

Any elements of the assessment process that have already been undertaken will not need to be repeated. For example if the project has already been on public exhibition, it will not need to be re-exhibited.

The nine proposals are:

- Yass Wind Farm
 - Rye Park Wind Farm
 - Paling Yards Wind Farm
 - Bango Wind Farm
 - Uungula Wind Farm.
- Crookwell 3 Wind Farm
Liverpool Range Wind Farm
Rugby Wind Farm
Crudine Ridge Wind Farm

Flyers Creek Wind Farm approved by the Planning Assessment Commission in the Central West was the final wind farm proposal which complied with transitional Part 3A requirements.

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