



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Referral of proposed action

What is a referral?

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) protects matters of national environmental significance (NES), and the environment, in relation to Commonwealth actions, and actions on (or impacting upon) Commonwealth land. The purpose of a referral is to determine whether your proposed action will need formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Your referral will be the principal basis for the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts' decision as to whether approval is necessary and, if so, the type of assessment that will be taken. These decisions are made within 20 business days.

When do I need to make a referral?

A referral must be made for actions that are likely to have a significant impact on matters protected by Part 3 of the EPBC Act:

- World Heritage (sections 12 and 15A)
- National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)
- Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)
- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
- Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)
- Marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)
- Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A)
- Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions (section 28)

OR

- actions that may have a significant impact on the environment of Commonwealth land (even if taken outside Commonwealth land)
- actions taken on Commonwealth land that may have a significant impact on the environment generally
- actions by Commonwealth Authorities that are likely have a significant impact on the environment require approval.

You may still make a referral if you believe your action is not going to have a significant impact, or if you are unsure.

To help you decide whether or not your proposed action requires approval (and, therefore, if you should make a referral), read the following documents, available from the Department web site:

- the Policy Statement titled *Principle Significance Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance*. Additional sectoral guidelines are also available.
- the Policy Statement titled *Principle Significance Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies*.
- the interactive map on the web site—enter a location to obtain a report on what matters of NES may occur in that location.

A staged or component action

An action that is a component of a larger action may not be accepted separately and may require referral of the larger action for consideration under the EPBC Act. Refer to *Fact Sheet 6: Staged Developments/Split Referrals*.

If you want to make a referral for a staged or component referral, contact the EPBC Act Referrals Section (1800 803 772).

Permits

Some activities may also require a permit under other sections of the EPBC Act, whether or not approval is required. Information is available on the Department web site.

Completing the referral form

Completing this form will help ensure that you submit the information required by the EPBC Regulations.

All referrals MUST be published on the Department's web site for public comment (the Department will arrange this) and should generally be:

- readily understood by the public
- no longer than 25 A4-sized, single-sided pages
- typed (main text no smaller than 11 points)
- have clearly legible maps and diagrams
- supplied unbound or electronically.

Provide supporting documentation, such as environmental reports or surveys, as attachments. However, the referral form must contain the core information, so that it provides an adequate basis for public comment and decision-making.

Provide coloured maps, figures or photographs to help explain the project and its location. Aerial photographs, in particular, can provide a useful perspective and context. Figures should be good quality as they may be scanned and viewed electronically as black and white documents. Maps should be of a scale that clearly shows the location of the proposed action and any environmental aspects of interest.

Using the MS Word file to enter your information

You can complete your referral by entering your information into this Word file.

Instructions are provided in green text. If you do not see the instructions you need to reveal 'hidden' text. A toolbar with buttons to turn the instructions on and off should be visible when you open the file.

Normally the instruction text will not print. (If you wish to print a copy of the form with the instructions you will need to select the Options button in the Print dialog and select Hidden text.)

Submitting the referral form

By mail to

EPBC Act Referrals Section
Environment Assessment Branch
Department of the Environment,
Water, Heritage and the Arts
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By fax to 02 6274 1789

- Referrals must be of sufficiently clear quality to be scanned into electronic format.
- Address the fax to the mailing address, and clearly mark it as a 'Referral under the EPBC Act'.
- Follow up with a mailed hardcopy including copies of any attachments or supporting reports.

By email to epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au.

- Clearly mark the email as a 'Referral under the EPBC Act'.
- Attach the referral as a Microsoft Word file and, if possible, a PDF file.
- To ensure file sizes are not too large (below two megabytes), enclose maps and figures as separate files if necessary. If unsure, send a question to the email address.
- Follow up with a mailed hardcopy including copies of any attachments or supporting reports.

What happens next?

The Department will write to you at the end of the 20 business day period to advise you of the outcome of your referral and whether or not formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act is needed. There are three types of decisions about the referral.

The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to be significant and does NOT NEED approval

No further consideration is required under the environmental assessment provisions of the EPBC Act and the action can proceed (subject to any state or local government requirements).

The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to be significant IF undertaken in specified manner

The specified manner in which you must carry out the action will be identified as part of the final decision. You must report your compliance with the specified manner to the Department.

The proposed action is LIKELY to be significant and does NEED approval

The proposed action is subject to a public assessment process before it can be considered for approval. The level of assessment will be decided at the same time. (Further information about the levels of assessment and basis for deciding the approach are available on the web site.)

If the action is likely to be significant it is called a *controlled action* and the particular matters upon which the action may have a significant impact (such as World Heritage or threatened species) are known as the *controlling provisions*.

Compliance audits

The Department may audit your project at any time to ensure that it was completed in accordance with the information provided in the referral or the stated particular manner. If the project changes, such that the degree of significance could vary, you should write to the Department to advise of the changes, and likely significance, or discuss with the EPBC Act Referrals Section (1800 803 772).

For more information

- call the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts Community Information Unit on 1800 803 772 or
- visit the web site www.environment.gov.au/epbc

All the information you need to make a referral, including documents referenced in this form, can be accessed from this web page.

Referral of proposed action

Project title	Barn Hill Wind Farm
----------------------	----------------------------

1 Contacts

1.1 **Referring party**

Wayne Asnicar
Senior Planner
WorleyParsons Services Pty Ltd
PO Box 15081, City East Brisbane Qld 4002
07 3319 3787 0423 770 439
Wayne.asnicar@worleyparsons.com

1.2 **Responsible party**

Person responsible for or who will carry out the proposed action.
If same as 1.1, write 'as above'
Terry Johannesen
Project Development Manager
Transfield Services Pty Ltd
Level 13, 80 Albert St, Brisbane Q 4002
07 3248 8765
johannesent@transfieldservices.com

1.3 **Proponent**

Person responsible for preparing assessment documentation, if approval is required. If same as 1.2, write 'as above'
As Above

2 Summary of proposed action

NOTE: You must attach an A4 size map/plan(s) showing the location and approximate boundaries of the area in which the project is to occur. The summary below should encompass any alternative locations, timeframes or activities that are listed in Section 3.2.

2.1 Short description

The proposed action is a wind farm (the Barn Hill Wind Farm) capable of generating an energy output of up to 130 MW. The proposed wind farm will comprise between 40 and 60 wind turbine generators (WTGs) together with ancillary structures, including access tracks incorporating underground turbine electrical connections, operations and maintenance buildings, two permanent 80 m high meteorological monitoring towers of lattice type structure, temporary construction and batching plant, and one substation. The number and type (2MW or 3 MW) of WTGs will be determined by a feasibility study currently being prepared. The proposed site is located along ridges of the Barunga Range approximately 150 km north of Adelaide and 15 km east of Port Broughton in South Australia (Figure 1).

2.2 Latitude and longitude

location point	Latitude			Longitude		
	degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
North extent	33	32	10.7	138	9	1.9
South extent	33	38	26.5	138	10	49.3
East extent	33	35	36.4	138	11	34.0
West extent	33	34	54.2	138	7	13.5

2.3 Locality

The wind farm site is located in a largely agricultural district north of the Gulf of St Vincent and east of the Spencer Gulf coast, approximately 15 km east of Port Broughton and 5 km west of Redhill. It comprises a low range of hills forming part of the Barunga Range, rising to approximately 365 m above sea level. The site is adjacent to the proposed Clements Gap wind farm to the north and the Barunga wind farm (under construction) to the south.

A map showing the Barn Hill Wind Farm site including an indicative WTG layout and the location of the proposed substation is attached in Figure 1.

2.4 Size of the development footprint or work area (hectares)

The proposed wind farm site forms an irregular shape approximately 12 km from north to south and 6.5 km east to west at the widest point. The development envelope is to be located within an area of up to 12 farming properties, and approximately total 2852 ha.

2.5 Street address of the site

The proposed site comprises parts of up to 12 farming properties. It is bounded by Torrs Gap Road to the north and Hope Gap Road to the south, and lies between Munderoo Powerline Road to the west and Hayes Road, Gum Creek Road and Manresa Road to the east.

2.6 Lot description

The Certificates of Title listed in Table 1 below make up the parcels of land included within the subject site.

Table 1: Parcels of land included within the subject site.

Title Number		Hundred	Council	Deposition Plan	Parcel Number
Volume	Folio				
CT 5480	227	Redhill	Port Pirie	D 26076	A101
CT 5482	548	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S560
CT 5482	550	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S559E
CT 5851	969	Redhill	Port Pirie	D 55148	A2
CT 5480	229	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S548
CT 5480	228	Redhill	Port Pirie	D 26076	A102
CT 5496	154	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S125
CT 5496	154	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S126
CT 5496	154	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S127
CT 5496	155	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S124
CT 5576	630	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S123
CT 5496	152	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S128S
CT 5496	150	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S128N
CT 5496	155	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S124
CT 5576	630	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S123
CT 5452	692	Barunga	Wakefield	H 210100	S55
CT 5784	312	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S49
CT 5620	130	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S48
CT 5899	104	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S37
CT 5899	104	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S38
CT 5620	130	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S47
CT 5658	161	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S46
CT 5994	156	Redhill	Port Pirie	F 188397	A265
CT 5430	454	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S122
CT 5482	692	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S564
CT 5851	968	Redhill	Port Pirie	D 55148	A1
CT 5482	547	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S562
CT 5482	545	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S563
CT 5576	630	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S123
CT5363	297	Barunga	Wakefield	H 210100	S56
CT5231	189	Barunga	Wakefield	H 210100	S61E
CT 5707	20	Redhill	BOTH	F 5071	A3
CT 5502	974	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S29W
CT 5535	725	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S29E
CT 5674	576	Redhill	Port Pirie	F 188479	A347
CT 5567	133	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S28
CT 5566	912	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S27
CT 5432	166	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S36
CT 5432	116	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S35
CT5155	783	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S547
CT5424	692	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S41
CT5424	692	Redhill	Port Pirie	H 210800	S42

2.7 Local Government Area and Council contact (if known)

The majority of the site lies within the Port Pirie Regional Council LGA, with a small portion in the south of the site falling within the Wakefield Regional Council LGA. The contact at Port Pirie Regional Council is Allan Cotton - (08) 8633 9720. Wakefield Regional Council's contact is Elca McCarthy – (08) 8862 0800.

2.8 **Project life**

It is anticipated that construction would start in late 2009 and be completed by the end of 2011.

The proposed wind farm should operate for a minimum of 20 years.

2.9	Alternatives	X	No
			Yes, complete section 3.2
2.10	State assessment	X	No
			Yes, complete Section 3.5
2.11	Component of larger action	X	No
			Yes, complete Section 3.6

3 Detailed project description

NOTE: The proposal described here is the action(s) on which ALL subsequent decisions under the EPBC Act will be made, including decisions on significance, level of assessment (if needed) and approval (if needed). It is therefore important that the description is complete and includes all components and activities associated with the action, as well as any specific alternatives to be assessed. If certain related components are not intended to be included within the scope of the referral, this should be clearly explained in Section 3.6.

3.1 Description of proposal

The proposed Barn Hill Wind Farm site is located in South Australia approximately 150 km north of Adelaide, 15 km east of Port Broughton and 5 km west of Redhill. It comprises a low range of hills forming part of the Barunga Range, rising to approximately 365 m above sea level. The site forms an irregular shape approximately 12 km from north to south and 6.5 km east to west at the widest point. The majority of the site lies within the Port Pirie Regional Council LGA, with a small portion in the south of the site falling within the Wakefield Regional Council LGA. The site is located adjacent to the proposed Clements Gap wind farm to the north and the Barunga wind farm (under construction) to the south.

The proposed wind farm will consist of the following components:

- Between 40 and 60 WTGs;
- Access tracks incorporating underground turbine electrical connections;
- Operations and maintenance buildings;
- Two permanent 80m high meteorological monitoring towers of lattice type structure;
- Temporary construction and batching plant; and
- One substation.

The Barn Hill Wind Farm involves the development of a wind farm capable of generating an energy output of up to 130 MW for supply to the energy market. The pre-feasibility study has been based on options ranging from 40 x 3.0 MW wind turbine generators (WTGs) to 60 x 2.0 MW WTGs. The project would also include a new substation, underground cabling, a substation, and associated site roads and infrastructure (workshop and office).

This referral has been prepared based on one of the more likely layouts, comprising 41 x 3.0 MW WTGs (Figure 1), based on the Vestas V90 machine (80 m hub height, 90 m rotor diameter, 125 m to tip of blade from ground). The decision on turbine supplier/type for the project will not be made until well into the on-going feasibility study for the project.

The turbine type and preliminary layout, whilst indicative only at this stage, is considered suitably representative to cover the range of possible WTG types for the proposed wind farm and their ultimate locations within the study area. The locations should not change significantly, as the locations of the preliminary layout reflects the most advantageous elevated positions to site the WTGs.

The layout of access tracks, turbines and supporting infrastructure will be carefully designed to avoid areas of high quality native vegetation and culturally significant areas.

A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed to ensure that correct environmental procedures are followed during construction.

3.2 Alternative locations, time frames or activities that form part of the referred action

Site targeted for suitability to develop a wind farm.

The anticipated project timetable is as follows:

- Feasibility study completed by mid-2009; and then, based on a decision to proceed with the project,
- Construction on-site would commence in late 2009 and be completed by the end of 2011.

- The development would have a minimum life of 20 years.

3.3 Previously considered alternatives and the 'do nothing' case

Site targeted for suitability to develop a wind farm.

3.4 Context, planning framework and state/local government requirements

The Australian Government has identified that renewable energy sources such as wind will play a key part in the global solution to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and the threat of climate change. The Government plans to dramatically expand the use of renewable energy to a 20 per cent target by the year 2020 and has set a Mandatory Renewable Energy Target (MRET) of 9,500 GWh of renewable energy per year by 2010, increasing to 45,000 GWh in 2020.

The South Australian State Government, through the Planning Strategy for Regional South Australia (2003), has shown support for the development of renewable forms of energy production in appropriate locations. The December 2007 amendment to the Strategy reinforces the South Australian Government's promotion of renewable energy sources such as wind farms.

The wind farm site straddles two South Australian regional councils being Port Pirie Regional Council and Wakefield Regional Council. Each Council has its own development plan which guide development throughout the Regional Council. The regional councils are the assessing authorities for the application under the *Development Act 1993*. However, as a result of discussions between the two Councils, Port Pirie will be taking the role of the primary assessor.

A Development Application is currently being prepared for submission to the Port Pirie and Wakefield Regional Councils. The application will include detailed environmental impact assessment and mitigation measures for protection of environmental values, including noise, flora and fauna, landscape and visual, cultural heritage, etc. The Development Application will be assessed against the Port Pirie Regional Council Development Plan and the Wakefield Regional Council Development Plan.

Other relevant Commonwealth and State Government policies and instruments include:

- Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- Commonwealth *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*;
- National Greenhouse Strategy;
- South Australian *Development Act 1993*;
- South Australian *Environment Protection Act 1993*;
- South Australian *Native Vegetation Act 1991*;
- South Australian *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*;
- The South Australian Planning Strategy for Regional South Australia;
- EPA Wind Farms Environmental Noise Guidelines (Interim); and
- Biodiversity Plan for the Northern Agricultural Districts of South Australia.

3.5 Environmental impact assessments under Commonwealth, state or territory legislation

The environmental approval process includes referral under the EPBC Act and impact assessment if deemed a controlled action.

The Barn Hill Wind Farm site is adjacent to the proposed Clements Gap Wind Farm to the north and the Barunga Wind Farm to the south. Both the Clements Gap and Barunga wind farms were deemed not to be controlled actions under the EPBC Act (Clements Gap EPBC 2003/1003; Barunga EPBC 2004/1357), and the Barunga wind farm to the south of the proposed site is currently under construction.

3.6 A staged development or component of a larger project

NOTE: The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts may not accept a referred action that is a component of a larger action and may request the person proposing to take the action to refer the larger action for consideration under the EPBC Act (Section 74A, EPBC Act).

If you wish to make a referral for a staged or component referral, read 'Fact Sheet 6 Staged Developments/Split Referrals' and contact the EPBC Act Referrals Section (1800 803 772).

The action described in the current referral can be considered stand-alone and viable in its own right because it addresses all the details of the wind farm proper.

The details of a proposed 132kV electricity transmission line to export electricity from the wind farm cannot be finalised until statutory approvals for the wind farm (the action described in this referral) are sought.

ElectraNet, the owner and manager of the South Australian transmission system, will be the custodian of the transmission line. Negotiations are still being carried out with ElectraNet in regard to the route of the line. This is dependant on the turbine locations, and choosing a route which limits environmental and visual impact. Preliminary studies have been undertaken by Transfield, however, Transfield are dictated by ElectraNet as the final custodian of the line.

Due to the remaining uncertainties regarding the electricity transmission line, particularly in terms of planning the nature of the electricity transmission line and its location, it is not recommended that the wind farm be assessed together with the electricity transmission line at this stage. Therefore a separate development application and EPBC referral processes for the electricity transmission line is proposed. This process has also been advised by the Port Pirie Regional Council and Wakefield Regional Council.

4 Affected environment

NOTE: You must attach a map(s)/plan(s) clearly showing the location of the action in relation to any matters of national environmental significance

4.1 Matters of national environmental significance

4.1 (a) World Heritage Properties

There are no World Heritage Properties in the vicinity of the site.

4.1 (b) National Heritage Places

There are no National Heritage Places in the vicinity of the site.

4.1 (c) Wetlands of International Significance (Ramsar)

There are no Ramsar wetlands in the vicinity of the site. The nearest Ramsar wetlands are the Coorong and Lower Lakes, approximately 210 km to the south of Barn Hill, and the Riverland, 250 km to the east. Both are within the Murray River catchment, which is not shared with the Barn Hill area.

4.1 (d) Listed threatened species and ecological communities

Table 2 describes the listed threatened flora and fauna species identified as potentially present in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm site and their likelihood of occurring on the site (Brett Lane and Associates, 2003, 2005; Smith and Smith, 2004, 2005). No EPBC-listed threatened ecological communities have been identified as likely to occur on the site.

Table 2: EPBC-listed threatened flora and fauna species

Species	EPBC Status	Habitat	Likelihood of Occurrence
Plants			
Greencomb Spider-orchid <i>Caldenia tensa</i>	Endangered	Riverine plains and nearby rises in remnant forests and woodlands.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
Trailing Hop-bush <i>Dodonaea procumbens</i>	Vulnerable	Natural temperate grasslands, preference for open, bare patches with little competition from other species.	Low: outside known range.
Bead Glasswort <i>Halosarcia flabelliformis</i>	Vulnerable	Salt flats around coast, salt lakes.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
Yellow Swainson-pea <i>Swainsona pyrophila</i>	Vulnerable	Sandy and loamy soils in mallee scrub.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
Birds			
Regent Honeyeater <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>	Endangered	Dry Eucalypt woodland and open forest.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site, probably extinct in South Australia.
Australian Painted Snipe <i>Rostratula australis</i>	Vulnerable	Shallow muddy freshwater swamps and marshes, flooded samphire.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
Plains-wanderer <i>Pedionomus torquatus</i>	Vulnerable	Natural open tussock grasslands, with up to 50% bare ground between sparse tussocks .	Low: small areas of suitable habitat on site.
Reptiles			
Pygmy Blue-tongue <i>Tiliqua adelaidensis</i>	Endangered	Natural grassland dominated by native grasses. Reliant on deep (>25 cm) spider burrows for shelter.	Low-Moderate: some potentially suitable habitat on site, not

			within known range.
Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard <i>Aprasia pseudopulchella</i>	Vulnerable	Slopes and ranges with stony soils in open woodland, shrubland or grassland. Burrowing lizard, shelters under surface cover such as rocks.	Likely: Suitable habitat present, within known range.

4.1 (e) Listed migratory species

Table 3 describes the listed migratory fauna species identified as potentially present in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm site and their likelihood of occurring on the site (BLA 2003, 2005).

Table 3: EPBC-listed migratory fauna species

Species	EPBC Status	Habitat	Likelihood of Occurrence
Birds			
White-bellied Sea-eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	Migratory	Coastal seas, islands, estuaries and inlets. Follows major rivers and wetlands far inland.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
Latham's Snipe <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Migratory	Breeds in Japan. Low rank vegetation around shallows of wetlands, reeds, sedges, saltmarsh. Summer migrant.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
White-throated Needletail <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	Migratory	Wide variety of habitats. Aerial forager. Summer migrant to Australia.	Possible: not recorded in summer bird surveys.
Rainbow Bee-eater <i>Merops ornatus</i>	Migratory	Open country, most vegetation types, sand dunes, banks.	Likely: Suitable habitat present, recorded near site.
Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	Migratory	Floodwater, rivers, shallows of wetlands, intertidal mudflats.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Migratory	Flooded pasture, shallows of freshwater wetlands.	Unlikely: no suitable habitat on site.
Fork-tailed Swift <i>Apus pacificus</i>	Migratory	Varied; airspace over habitat ranging from rainforest to semi-desert. Summer migrant to Australia.	Possible: not recorded in summer bird surveys.

4.1 (f) Nuclear actions

The proposed action is not a nuclear action.

4.1 (g) Commonwealth marine areas

There are no Commonwealth marine areas in the vicinity of the site.

4.2 Important or unique aspects of the environment, if relevant

4.2 (a) Soil and vegetation characteristics

Soil

Soils along the Barunga Range comprise shallow skeletal soils on ridgetops and hard red-brown textured soils on the hillslopes, with deeper alluvial soils on the valley flats (NAYNRMB 2006). The soils within the wind farm envelope are generally stony, particularly on the ridges, most of which have numerous small surface rocks present.

Vegetation

A vegetation assessment of the Barn Hill wind farm site identified and mapped four Vegetation Associations as occurring on the site (Smith and Smith 2004). These are described in Table 4 and their extent on the wind farm site is shown in Figure 2.

Table 4: Vegetation Associations on the Barn Hill Wind Farm site

Vegetation Association	Description	Conservation Significance
1: Native Vegetation	Drooping Sheoak (<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>) over Sweet Bursaria (<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>) +/- Spiny Cryptandra (<i>Cryptandra amara</i>) Low Open Woodland.	High
2: Native Grass Pasture	Spear Grass (<i>Stipa</i> spp.) +/- Wallaby Grass (<i>Danthonia</i> spp.) with occasional Kangaroo Grass (<i>Themeda triandra</i>) Grassland.	Medium
3: Grazing	Mixed exotic grasses +/- Wallaby Grass (<i>Danthonia</i> spp.) and Spear Grass (<i>Stipa</i> spp.).	Medium-Low
4: Cropping	Dominated by crops, mainly wheat, and with little or no native vegetation.	Low

Native Vegetation association on the Barn Hill site was ranked as being of High Conservation Significance, particularly in view of the lack of vegetation in the surrounding region, with only 0.4% of original vegetation remaining in the Hundred of Redhill. The Native Vegetation association was thought to comprise highly modified (by clearing) remnants of mallee woodland, with evidence of intense grazing and weed invasion. Native Grass Pasture association on the Barn Hill site was ranked as being of Medium Conservation Significance and Grazing as Medium-Low Conservation Significance. Both of these associations have been extensively modified and contain individual remnant species rather than large vegetation communities, with Native Grass Pasture dominated by native grasses but highly modified by grazing and Grazing including insignificant amounts of native species. Cropping was ranked as being of Low Conservation Significance.

A total of 71 native plant species were identified on the Barn Hill site during the vegetation survey.

4.2 (b) Water flows, including rivers, creeks and impoundments

A number of small ephemeral creeks drain to the east and west of the site, often forming deep gullies between the ridges that make up most of the site. There are no natural surface waterbodies within the wind farm envelope, although a number of small farm dams are present along ephemeral creek lines. The nearest surface waterbodies are a series of small saline lakes to the southeast of the wind farm site, with the closest of these located 4.5 km east of the southeast corner of the wind farm envelope.

4.2 (c) Outstanding natural features, including caves

There are no outstanding natural features or caves on the site.

4.2 (d) Gradient

The proposed WTGs are to be located along the ridges of the Barunga Range hills making up the site, which rise to approximately 365 m above sea level. The eastern sides of these hills slope gently to the plains to the east, while the western slopes are steeper and form a low rocky escarpment above the coastal plain.

4.2 (e) Buildings or other infrastructure

Several residential farmhouses and associated structures are present on the site. The wind farm envelope has implemented a minimum buffer of 1000 m between the WTGs and nearby residences to ensure potential visual and noise impacts are minimised, as shown on Figure 1.

A telecommunications base station is located on the summit of Barn Hill. Two facilities operate from this site, one by the SA State Government Radio Network, the other by ElectraNet. Two structures exist on the site, separated by approximately 20 metres. Telecommunications uses of the facility include point-to-point links to Port Pirie, The Bluff and Brinkworth. The wind farm envelope has established a 1200 metre exclusion zone around the Barn Hill telecommunications site and exclusion zones along the point-to-point link paths (Figure 1) to protect telecommunications services from interference.

An above-ground water pipeline passes through the site adjacent to Pipeline Road, Ingram Gap Road and Brooklyn Road. The pipeline does not cross any part of the proposed wind farm envelope.

4.2 (f) Marine areas

There are no marine areas in the vicinity of the site.

4.2 (g) Kinds of fauna

A regional risk assessment for flora and fauna of the wind farm site (Brett Lane and Associates 2005) concluded that the mammal fauna is likely to be depauperate due to the degraded state of habitats present. Introduced European Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) were recorded on the site. No reptiles or frogs were recorded, but farm dams on the site are expected to support common frog species, and grassland areas (particularly where they occur in areas of rocky outcrops) are likely to support a range of native reptiles. Two EPBC-listed threatened reptiles were identified as potentially present (Table 2): Pygmy Bluetongue (*Tiliqua adelaidensis*) and Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard (*Aprasia pseudopulchella*). The Pygmy Bluetongue is considered to have a low-moderate probability of occurring on the site, while the Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard is considered likely to be present (see Section 5.1).

A bird utilisation survey conducted during spring 2004 and summer 2005 (Brett Lane and Associates 2005) identified 42 species of birds at the proposed Barn Hill Wind Farm site, of which 38 were native bird species and 4 introduced species. Bird species diversity was relatively low on the proposed wind farm site compared to other similar settings in South Australia and Victoria. The dominant birds were widespread and abundant native birds of farmland (e.g. Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*, Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis*, Richard's Pipit *Anthus australis*) together with the introduced Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*). No EPBC-listed threatened bird species were observed.

4.2 (h) Current state of the environment

The area has been largely cleared of native vegetation and much of the site is currently cultivated for cereal or legume crops, or comprises introduced pasture dominated by introduced grasses and used for grazing by sheep. Patches of native grassland occur in areas that have not been cultivated, usually on steeper ground and particularly on the western rocky escarpments. Small degraded patches of remnant native low open woodland occur in some of the steeper gullies of the site, dominated by Drooping Sheoak (Figure 2). Other than these patches, the great majority of the site is devoid of any native tree or shrub cover. The proposed WTG locations are on the higher points of the ridges, comprising predominantly grazed or cropped land (Figure 1).

4.2 (i) Commonwealth Heritage Places and places on the Register of the National Estate

No Commonwealth Heritage Places or places on the Register of the National Estate occur on the site.

4.2 (j) Known Indigenous heritage values

An archaeological and anthropological desktop and field assessment of known Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal archaeological sites and heritage places in the subject area has been undertaken. The desktop analysis indicated that there is no registered or recorded Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal site, object or place in the proposed development area of Barn Hill (Walshe and Bonell 2004).

Preliminary field investigations were undertaken in February 2005, and an Aboriginal archaeological site was identified during the survey (Walshe and Bonell 2005). The report recommends the development envelope avoid the archaeological site, which has been followed. An exclusion zone has been established around the

archaeological site, shown in Figure 1. An application for a determination on any sites of significance in the proposed development area has been lodged under Section 12 of the *South Australian Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*.

4.2 (k) Other important or unique values of the environment

Clements Gap Conservation Park is located approximately 5.5 km northwest of the northwestern extent of the site, and comprises a significant area of remnant mallee vegetation. The area between the site and Clements Gap Conservation Park consists of cleared land used for grazing and cropping, similar to that comprising the proposed site.

4.2 (l) Tenure of the action area (e.g. freehold, leasehold)

The site is comprised of 42 freehold blocks (see Table 1).

4.2 (m) Existing land uses

The current land uses of the site and surrounding area are predominantly agricultural. Most of the site is currently either cultivated for cereal or legume crops, or used for grazing by sheep. The proposed wind farm development will not alter the agricultural use of the site as the turbines have a small footprint and will occupy a relatively small proportion of the land area, with grazing or cropping able to occur up to the base of each turbine.

4.2 (n) Proposed land uses

5 Nature and extent of likely impacts

5.1 Likely impacts on matters of national environmental significance (NES)

5.1 (a) Likely impact on the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property

There are no World Heritage Properties in the vicinity of the site.

5.1 (b) Likely impact on the heritage values of a listed National Heritage place

There are no National Heritage Places in the vicinity of the site.

5.1 (c) Likely impact on the ecological character of a declared Ramsar wetland

There are no Ramsar wetlands in the vicinity of the site.

5.1 (d) Likely impact on the members of a listed threatened species or ecological community, or their habitat

Plains-wanderer

The Plains-wanderer is a small cryptic ground-dwelling bird superficially similar to a quail, although not closely related to quails. It occurs in sparse open native grasslands with about 50% bare ground, where it forages during the day for seeds and insects. The Plains-wanderer was formerly widespread in lowland native grassland of southeastern Australia, but has declined in range and numbers due to habitat loss and degradation and is listed as Endangered under the EPBC Act. This species was formerly common in the Adelaide Plains, Yorke and Eyre Peninsulas region, but have declined greatly with the introduction of intensive agricultural practices, with very few records since the 1970s. The two most recent records near Barn Hill were in 1989 (8-9 km south) and 1991 (7-8 km east) (Brett Lane and Associates, 2005).

The four vegetation associations identified on the Barn Hill site were assessed for habitat suitability for the Plains-wanderer (Brett Lane and Associates, 2005). Patches of potentially suitable habitat for the Plains-wanderer were identified on the site and mapped, mainly in Native Grass Pasture association, but only very small areas were suitable at the time of the assessment in spring. The site was considered unlikely to support a viable Plains-wanderer population, and any use of the site by Plains-wanderers would be occasional by individuals forced to move from other areas. This species is reluctant to fly, and flies at low heights when it does so. Consequently, it was considered highly unlikely to be impacted by collision with wind turbines.

Pygmy Bluetongue

The Pygmy Bluetongue is a small lizard with a restricted distribution in the mid-north of South Australia. Formerly thought to be extinct, it was rediscovered in 1992 near Burra, and its currently known distribution occurs as a series of scattered populations located mainly from Burra (70 km east of the Barn Hill site) north to Peterborough. Recent additional records have been located near Blyth, 35 km southeast of the Barn Hill site, and South Hummocks, 40 km south of Barn Hill (DEH 2001).

The Pygmy Bluetongue has only ever been found in natural grasslands and is known from only 19 of over 100 surviving grassland remnants that have been surveyed (Souter *et al.* 2007). It shelters in the burrows of wolf spiders and trapdoor spiders, preferring burrows that are more than 25 cm deep. Pygmy Bluetongues are reliant on these deep spider burrows for survival and are confined to areas with an adequate supply of burrows (Souter *et al.* 2007). They do not occur in areas that have been ploughed, which breaks up the soil and destroys the burrows, and overgrazing can also result in burrow destruction through trampling by sheep (Milne *et al.* 2000, Souter *et al.* 2007).

Targeted reptile surveys have not been conducted on the Barn Hill site, but the Pygmy Bluetongue is considered to have a low to moderate probability of occurrence on the site. The ridges where the wind turbines will be located generally have shallow stony soils that do not appear to constitute suitable habitat for the Pygmy Bluetongue, and the deeper soils of the plains have been ploughed. Targeted surveys in 2002

and 2003 failed to detect this species on the Barunga Wind Farm site immediately to the south of Barn Hill (Vawser 2004). The presence of the Pygmy Bluetongue on the Barn Hill Wind Farm site cannot be ruled out, however, as small patches of potential native grassland habitat are present on the site and the lizard is highly cryptic and difficult to detect.

Potential impacts of the Barn Hill Wind Farm on the Pygmy Bluetongue include:

- Direct effects on individuals during construction, and
- Alteration of the lizard's habitat.

These impacts are not likely to be significant because the actual construction footprints for each turbine (plus access tracks and supporting infrastructure) will comprise only a very small part of the total wind farm envelope, and broadscale habitat alteration will not occur. In general, the ridges comprise unsuitable habitat for the Pygmy Bluetongue, because their shallow stony soils are not suitable for the deep spider burrows on which this lizard relies. Once the final wind farm layout has been confirmed, pre-construction surveys will be conducted to determine the presence of any Pygmy Bluetongue individuals within the construction envelopes for turbines, access tracks and supporting infrastructure. Any individuals located during the pre-construction surveys will be relocated to nearby suitable habitat outside the construction envelope.

Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard

The Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard is a small burrowing legless lizard which occurs from the Flinders Ranges south to the Mt Lofty Ranges and the northern suburbs of Adelaide. It prefers stony soils or clay soils with a stony surface, and shelters in the soil beneath stones and rotting stumps (Cogger, 2000; Wilson and Swan, 2008).

Prior to the commencement of the EPBC Act, the Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard was listed as vulnerable under the Commonwealth *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*, largely due to a paucity of records of this cryptic lizard. In recent years, improved survey effort has recorded this species at numerous sites in the mid-north of South Australia, and it appears to be relatively common in suitable habitat (grasslands on rocky hillslopes) throughout this area (Mark Hutchinson, *pers. comm.*). Targeted reptile surveys have not been conducted on the Barn Hill site, but the Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard has been recorded in similar habitat 3.5 km south of the proposed site on the Barunga Wind Farm site (Vawser 2004). The Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard may be present in stony grassland habitat across the Barn Hill site, including Native Vegetation, Native Grass Pasture and Grazing vegetation associations. It is highly unlikely to be present in any areas that have been used for cropping, as ploughing destroys the lizard's habitat.

Potential impacts of the Barn Hill Wind Farm on the Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard include:

- Direct effects on individuals during construction, and
- Alteration of lizard habitats.

These impacts are not likely to be significant because the actual construction footprints for each turbine (plus access tracks and supporting infrastructure) will comprise only a very small part of the total wind farm envelope, and broadscale habitat alteration will not occur. Once the final wind farm layout has been confirmed, pre-construction surveys will be conducted to determine the presence of any Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard individuals within the construction envelopes for turbines, access tracks and supporting infrastructure. Any individuals located during the pre-construction surveys will be relocated to nearby suitable habitat outside the construction envelope.

5.1 (e) Likely impact on the members of a listed migratory species or their habitat

Potential impacts on EPBC-listed migratory species are likely to be confined to the risk of mortality from collision with turbines for migratory birds.

A bird survey of the proposed Barn Hill Wind Farm site conducted during spring 2004 and summer 2005 (Brett Lane and Associates, 2005) identified 42 bird species (38 native and 4 introduced). Bird species diversity was relatively low on the proposed wind farm site compared to other similar settings in South Australia and Victoria. The dominant birds were widespread and abundant native birds of farmland, and no EPBC-listed migratory bird species were observed.

The bird survey methodology conformed to the protocol for initial bird utilisation surveys as part of a Level One Investigation (Initial Risk Assessment), as detailed in the *Best Practice Guidelines for Implementation of Wind Energy Projects in Australia* and in *Wind Farms and Birds: Interim Standards for Risk Assessment* (Auswind 2005, 2006). Birds were recorded separately as flying below, at or above the rotor swept area (RSA) height (20-110 m). The great majority (93%) of the 1,428 individual birds observed flew at heights below RSA height, with 6.5% observed at RSA height and 0.4% above RSA height. Those observed at RSA height comprised mostly widespread farmland bird species including Australian Magpie, Ravens (*Corvus* spp.), Dusky Woodswallow (*Artamus cyanopterus*) and Nankeen Kestrel (*Falco cenchroides*).

The RSA used in the reports by Brett Lane and Associates is considered conservative in respect to the distance between the swept area and the ground. The report is based on turbines which have a RSA closer to the ground. The Vestas V90 3.0MW wind turbine, on which the indicative layout is based, has a RSA of 35-125m.

Seven EPBC-listed migratory bird species have been identified as potentially occurring in the wider area around the proposed wind farm site (Table 3). Of these, one species was considered likely to occur (Rainbow Bee-eater) and two were considered possible (White-throated Needletail and Fork-tailed Swift). None of these species were recorded on the Barn Hill site during bird surveys in 2004 and 2005 (Brett Lane and Associates, 2005).

Both the White-throated Needletail and Fork-tailed Swift are highly-mobile aerial foragers, and both are summer migrants to Australia. They forage in low to very high airspace over a wide variety of habitats and may sleep on the wing in high flocks. The White-throated Needletail is at the westernmost extremity of its Australian range on the Yorke Peninsula while the Fork-tailed Swift is more widespread across Australia. Neither species was recorded on the Barn Hill site during summer surveys in 2005, and the Atlas of Australian Birds has no recent records within 50 km of the site (Birds Australia, 2008). The risk of potential significant impacts on these two species is low.

The Rainbow Bee-eater is a widespread bird which is resident in the north of Australia and a summer migrant to southern Australia. It has been recorded at Redhill and Clements Gap Conservation Park near Barn Hill (Birds Australia 2008). Rainbow Bee-eaters were not recorded on the Barn Hill site during spring or summer surveys in 2004 and 2005, but may occasionally utilise suitable habitat on the Barn Hill site. The Rainbow Bee-eater is widespread and common in South Australia and any impacts on this species from the proposed wind farm are not likely to be significant.

5.1 (f) Likely impact on the environment in part of the Commonwealth marine area

There are no Commonwealth marine areas in the vicinity of the site.

5.2 Likely impacts for nuclear actions, actions affecting Commonwealth land or actions taken by the Commonwealth

6 Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

Threatened Species

Potential significant impacts on EPBC-listed threatened species are likely to be limited to direct impacts associated with construction of the wind farm turbines, access tracks and supporting infrastructure on:

- Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard (likely to be present); and
- Pygmy Bluetongue (low-moderate likelihood of occurrence).

Pre-construction ecological field surveys using appropriate specialists will be conducted to determine the presence of any threatened species (Flinders Ranges Worm-lizards, Pygmy Bluetongues or threatened plants) in suitable habitat within the construction envelopes for turbines, access tracks and supporting infrastructure. The turbines, access tracks and supporting infrastructure will be sited to avoid any populations detected.

Once the final wind farm layout has been confirmed, clearance surveys for threatened reptiles will be conducted in construction areas prior to construction. Any threatened reptiles located within construction areas during clearance surveys will be relocated to nearby suitable habitat outside the construction envelope, with translocation managed in conjunction with specialist advice.

If regular access by vehicles is required on access tracks in close proximity to populations of the Pygmy Bluetongue, mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce the risk of roadkill. Such mitigation measures may include locating tracks to avoid the possibility of dividing breeding populations that may cross the track in search of partners, speed limits in likely crossing areas and education of site personnel.

Migratory Birds

The risk of potential impacts on EPBC-listed migratory birds is low, with no listed migratory species recorded on the site during bird surveys and only one common and widespread species (Rainbow Bee-eater) considered likely to utilise habitat on the site. A post-construction monitoring program will be implemented to monitor the actual impacts, and may include:

- Monitoring of bird collisions with turbines; and
- Indirect disturbance and avoidance assessments (utilisation surveys).

Monitoring methodologies will conform to those detailed in the *Best Practice Guidelines for Implementation of Wind Energy Projects in Australia* and in *Wind Farms and Birds: Interim Standards for Risk Assessment* (Auswind 2005, 2006).

7 Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

NOTE: Under the EPBC Act, you must identify in the referral whether or not you believe significant impacts on the matters protected under the Act are likely. If you identify that significant impacts are likely, you must identify the relevant protected matters in section 7.2.

Do you THINK your proposed action is likely to have significant impacts?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, complete section 7.1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, complete Section 7.2

7.1 Proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have significant impacts

Key reasons

The Barn Hill Wind Farm is not likely to have a significant impact on any matter of National Environmental Significance under the EPBC Act for the following reasons:

- The wind farm is not likely to have a significant impact on any listed threatened species or their habitat. Of the three listed threatened species identified as potentially present:
 - The Plains-wanderer has a low likelihood of occurrence on the site and a low risk of significant impact;
 - The Pygmy Bluetongue has a low-moderate likelihood of occurrence on the site but has not been recorded within 35 km of the site, despite targeted surveys in the vicinity (e.g. Barunga wind farm). It is unlikely to occur on the ridges where the turbines will be located because their shallow skeletal soils comprise unsuitable habitat for this species; and
 - The Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard, while likely to be present on the site, has been recorded at numerous sites in the mid-north of South Australia, and appears to be relatively common in suitable habitat throughout this area. Any impacts on this species from the proposed wind farm are not likely to be significant;
- Pre-construction field surveys for threatened reptiles will enable turbines and infrastructure to be sited to avoid any populations of listed threatened species, and clearance surveys will enable any threatened reptile individuals to be relocated outside construction areas;
- The wind farm is not likely to have a significant impact on any listed migratory species or their habitat. Of the three listed threatened species identified as potentially present:
 - The White-throated Needletail and Fork-tailed Swift have a low likelihood of occurrence on the site and a low risk of significant impact; and
 - The Rainbow Bee-eater, while likely to be present on the site, is widespread and common in South Australia. Any impacts on this species from the proposed wind farm are not likely to be significant;
- The wind farm is not on or near any World Heritage property, and therefore will not have an impact on World Heritage properties or values;
- The wind farm is not on or near any Ramsar wetland, and therefore will not have an impact on any Ramsar wetland;
- The wind farm is not in or near a Commonwealth marine area, and therefore will not have an impact on Commonwealth Marine area environments;
- The wind farm is not part of, or near Commonwealth land, thus will have no impact on Commonwealth land;
- The wind farm is not a nuclear action; and
- The wind farm will not be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency

7.2 Proposed action is **LIKELY** to have significant impacts

Matters likely to be impacted

<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 12 and 15A (World Heritage)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 15B and 15C (National Heritage places)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 16 and 17B (Wetlands of international importance)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 18 and 18A (Listed threatened species and communities)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 20 and 20A (Listed migratory species)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 21 and 22A (Protection of the environment from nuclear actions)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 23 and 24A (Marine environment)
<input type="checkbox"/>	sections 26 and 27A (Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land)
<input type="checkbox"/>	section 28 (Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions)

Key reasons

8 Assessment approach under the EPBC Act

NOTE: If a decision is made that a proposal needs approval under the Act, the Minister will also decide the assessment approach needed to satisfy the objectives of the Act. While the information you have provided in this referral will be taken into account in making this decision, the final decision rests with the Minister.

Level of assessment

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bilateral Agreement applies
<input type="checkbox"/>	Accredited assessment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assessment on referral information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preliminary information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Environment Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Impact Statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commission of Inquiry
<input type="checkbox"/>	No comment/Not sure

Key reasons

9 Environmental history of the responsible party

NOTE: The EPBC Act Regulations provide for the environmental history of the party proposing to take the action to be taken into account when deciding the assessment approach for actions that need approval under the Act.

	Yes	No
<p>9.1 Does the party taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, provide details <p>As providers of essential services to key infrastructure, sustainability lies central to Transfield's business. This is prevalent through the delivery of sustainable projects and the investment in renewable energy projects.</p> <p>Transfield Services is a leading international provider of operations, maintenance, asset management and project management services.</p> <p>In recent years Transfield Services have been involved in projects which deliver sustainable solutions. One example of this includes the delivery and maintenance of the Gippsland Water Recycling Plant, being the first of its kind in Australia, which will treat up to 35 million litres of wastewater daily.</p> <p>Transfield Services have also been the recipient of sustainability and environmental awards such as the SaveWater award (2005) from the Victorian Government for the refurbishment of the Yarra Tram depot, and the Telstra Environmental Innovation Award for the development and implementation of a Wildlife Risk Mitigation Strategy for Telstra.</p> <p>Transfield is taking an active position on renewable energy. Late last year, through the Transfield Infrastructure Fund, Transfield made a large investment in wind farms , buying four established wind farms from Stanwell Corporation and is still negotiating for a 50% share in a fifth. Transfield Services also bought the development portfolio of wind farm projects owned by Stanwell Corporation and is now working to develop these. Transfield Services is also actively considering opportunities in a range of other renewable energy technologies.</p> <p>Transfield Services is committed to continually improving the environmental performance of all its projects through its on going certification to the Environmental Management Systems (ISO14001), and its annual reporting in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) G3 2006 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines.</p> <p>Further information on Transfield Service's environmental background can be found at http://www.transfieldservices.com/sustainability/sustainability_report.htm</p>	X	
<p>9.2 Is the party taking the action subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, provide details 		x

<p>9.3 For an action for which a person has applied for a permit under the EPBC Act, is the person making the application subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If Yes, provide details 		x
<p>9.4 If the party taking the action is a corporation, will the action be taken in accordance with the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfield Services has implemented a number of policies in which all their activities must abide by. In particular, Transfield Services has implemented the following environmental policy to ensure that their activities are not harmful to the environment and the greater community: <p><i>Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Policy</i></p> <p>The HSE Policy has been implemented to protect the health and safety of all employees and to ensure their activities are not harmful to the environment. The policies objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zero harm to people and the environment - To show leadership in the field of HSE management - To work in a responsible and sustainable manner <p>A full copy of the policy is available at http://www.transfieldservices.com/sustainability/hse/hse_policy.htm</p>	X	

10 Information sources and attachments

10.1 References

Auswind 2005. *Wind Farms and Birds: Interim Standards for Risk Assessment*. Report prepared for the Australian Wind Energy Association by Brett Lane and Associates Pty Ltd and Aria Professional Services Pty Ltd, July 2005.

Auswind 2006. *Best Practice Guidelines for Implementation of Wind Energy Projects in Australia*. Australian Wind Energy Association, December 2006.

Birds Australia 2008. *Birddata: Online Atlas of Australian Birds*. <http://www.birddata.com.au>

Brett Lane and Associates 2003. *Barn Hill Wind Farm: Regional Risk Assessment for Flora and Fauna*. Report no. 2003.40 prepared by Brett Lane and Associates Pty Ltd for Stanwell Corporation Ltd, November 2003.

Brett Lane and Associates 2005. *Barn Hill Wind Farm: Detailed Investigation of Vegetation and Avifauna Issues*. Report no. 4073 prepared by Brett Lane and Associates Pty Ltd for Stanwell Corporation Ltd, February 2005.

Cogger, H. 2000. *Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia*, Sixth Edition. Reed New Holland, Sydney.

DEH 2001. *Biodiversity Plan for the Northern Agricultural Districts of South Australia*. Department of Environment and Heritage, South Australia.

Hutchinson, M. 2008. Personal communication, Dr Mark Hutchinson, Curator of Herpetology, South Australian Museum. 1 May, 2008.

Milne, T., Hutchinson, M. and Clarke, S. 2000. *National recovery plan for the Pygmy Bluetongue Lizard (*Tiliqua adelaidensis*)*. Department of Environment, Canberra, November 2000.

NAYNRMB 2006. Initial Natural Resources Management Plan for the Northern and Yorke Natural Resources Management Region 2006-07. Northern and Yorke Natural Resources Management Board, April 2006.

Robinson, A.C., Caspersen, K.D. and Hutchinson, M.N. 2000. *A List of the Vertebrates of South Australia*. Biological Survey & Research, Heritage and Biodiversity Division, Department for Environment and Heritage, South Australia.

Smith, J. and Smith, K. 2004. *Vegetation Assessment: Barn Hill*. Report prepared by Jeremiah and Karen Smith for Greening Australia (South Australia) Inc, December 2004.

Smith, J. and Smith, K. 2005. *Roadside Vegetation Assessment: Barn Hill*. Report prepared by Jeremiah and Karen Smith for Greening Australia (South Australia) Inc, February 2005.

Souter, N.J., Bull, M., Lethbridge, M.R. and Hutchinson, M.N. 2007. Habitat requirements of the endangered pygmy bluetongue lizard, *Tiliqua adelaidensis*. *Biological Conservation* 135:33-45.

Threatened Species Scientific Committee 2008. *Commonwealth Conservation Advice on Aprasia pseudopulchella (Flinders Ranges Worm-lizard)*. Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. Available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/1666-conservation-advice.pdf>

Vawser, M. 2004. *Barunga Wind Farm EPBC Referral*. Reference 2004/1357, February 2004. Available at: http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/epbc/epbc_ap.pl?name=current_referral_detail&proposal_id=1357

Walshe, K and Bonell, J. 2004. Archaeological and Anthropological Desktop Study of a Proposed Wind Farm Development, Barn Hill, South Australia. Report to Stanwell Corporation Limited, November 2004.

Walshe, K and Bonell, J. 2004. Results of a Preliminary Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Wind Farm Development, Barn Hill, South Australia. Report to Stanwell Corporation Limited, February 2005.

Wilson, S. and Swan, G. 2008. *A Complete Guide to Reptiles of Australia*. Second Edition. New Holland, Sydney.

10.2 Reliability of information

The affected environment and potential impacts of the action on matters of National Environmental Significance (listed flora and fauna) have been assessed based on the best available information on the status of affected habitats and species within the region, together with detailed field surveys of the proposed wind farm site (conducted since 2004). This information is considered to be the best and most up-to-date available for the area. Supporting information on known distribution, status and habitats of threatened species has been the most recent and authoritative available (e.g. Souter *et al.* 2007, Threatened Species Scientific Committee 2008), supplemented with expert communications (Dr Mark Hutchinson, Curator of Herpetology, South Australian Museum).

10.3 Attachments

You must attach	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the project locality (section 2)	X
	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the location of the project in respect to any matters of national environmental significance or important features of the environments (section 4)	X
If relevant, attach	copies of any state or local government approvals and consent conditions (section 3.4)	
	copies of any completed assessments to meet state or local government approvals and outcomes of public consultations, if available (section 3.5)	
	copies of any flora and fauna investigations and surveys (section 4)	X
	technical reports relevant to the assessment of impacts on protected matters and that support the arguments and conclusions in the referral (section 4 and 5)	X
	report(s) on any public consultations undertaken, including with Indigenous Stakeholders (section 4)	

11 Signatures and declarations

NOTE: Providing false or misleading information is an offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment and fine (Section 489, EPBC Act).

Project title

11.1 **Party who prepared the referral**

I declare that the information contained in this form is, to my knowledge, true and not misleading. I request that the person named in 11.3 below (if any) be designated as the proponent for the action.

Signature



Date

1 JULY 2008

Full name

WAYNE ASNICAR

11.2 **Party who is responsible for action**

I declare that the information contained in this form is, to my knowledge, true and not misleading.

Signature



Date

1 JULY 2008

Full name

TERRY JOHANNESSEN

11.3 **Proponent (complete only if different from 11.2)**

I, being the person nominated in Section 1.3 of this referral form as the nominated proponent (or agent acting on behalf of), agree to be designated as the proponent for the action described above if it is decided that the action requires approval under Part 9 of the EPBC Act.

Signature

Date

Full Name

If the referring party is a small business (fewer than 20 employees), estimate the time, in hours and minutes, to complete this form (include your time reading the instructions, working on the questions and obtaining the information and time spent by all employees in collecting and providing this information).

Hours	Minutes