

Submission to the Senate Inquiry on Offshore Wind Consultation Process

August 2024

Executive Summary

Community Power Agency thanks the Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Senate Inquiry into the offshore wind industry consultation process.

Our experience as advocates for best practice community engagement in the renewables energy sector has aptly positioned us to comment on the offshore wind industry consultation process. We consider that the Australian Government's recent public consultation has been in line with the requirements of this stage of the legislative and regulatory process. We were pleased to see evidence that the Australian Government incorporated community views and concerns into the declaration of offshore wind zones, such as by adjusting the area size and distance from the coast, in line with community feedback.

However, there are critical ways in which future public consultation processes can be strengthened to ensure that community views and interests are heard and acted upon. Currently, the legislative and regulatory framework for offshore wind does not sufficiently reflect community expectations, which has contributed to poor public perception of the industry. Without early, clear and ongoing communication with communities, defined roles for government in coordinating an approach to managing cumulative impacts from multiple projects, and enforceable, best practice standards imposed on project proponents, there is a risk that the social licence for offshore wind will not be adequate.

We recommend that:

1. Further resources should be directed toward raising community awareness of the rationale for offshore wind as part of Australia's future energy mix, and providing greater clarity on the legislative and regulatory framework for offshore wind, from pre-determination of offshore areas, to decommissioning of offshore wind projects (including references to the points for community input).

2. The role of government, in coordinating and managing the potential cumulative impact of multiple projects within an offshore area, should be clarified.
3. Australia should adopt a 'social dialogue model' for policy development in the context of offshore wind, as demonstrated internationally (in jurisdictions such as Denmark and Spain).¹
4. The merit criteria associated with offshore wind licences should be strengthened, to give due weight to community interests.
5. Best practice standards for community engagement and benefit sharing should be integrated into the regulatory framework for offshore wind.
6. First Nations people should be empowered to exercise their rights to self-determination in the context of offshore wind, and these rights embedded into the regulatory scheme.
7. The Government should commit resources to enable First Nations people to actively participate in the consultation process for offshore wind.
8. There should be greater investment in research and communication to address community concerns and misinformation about the environmental and social impacts of offshore wind projects.
9. The regulatory framework for managing the environmental impacts of offshore wind should be strengthened, to instil community confidence in the integrity of environmental management plans.
10. The Government should commit to identifying and managing potential cumulative environmental and social impacts of offshore wind, beyond the ambit of the EPBC Act.
11. The Government should develop guidelines for community and regional benefit sharing, community co-ownership, and co-investment opportunities, in the context of offshore wind.

These recommendations are expanded on in the subsequent sections of this submission.

Capability Statement

At Community Power Agency, we work with communities, government and industry to help deliver beneficial outcomes for Australian communities as we navigate the transition to renewable energy. We have been working within the renewables sector for over a decade to build capacity and improve practice around community engagement, benefit sharing, co-investment and co-ownership models, and biodiversity outcomes for renewable energy projects.

¹ See e.g. Wakeham, M., 'The Visible Hand of Industry Policy – Churchill Fellowship to visit successful 'Just Transition' climate change collaborations and consider their applicability to Australian contexts' (Report, 2022), p. 19.

We recently authored a [discussion paper](#) on Regional Benefit Sharing,² focused on creating strategic impacts for regions that host multiple renewable energy projects, and have also developed a [biodiversity guide](#) for nature-positive solar farming in regional Australia.³ We were lead authors of the Clean Energy Council's [Benefit Sharing Guide](#),⁴ the [Tasmanian guide](#) for community engagement, benefit sharing and local procurement,⁵ and the [Victorian guide](#) for community engagement and benefit sharing.⁶ This breadth of experience has provided us with the knowledge and expertise to make the following recommendations for improving the Australian Government's consultation process in the context of offshore wind.

Our recommendations are structured according to the terms of reference for the Senate Inquiry:

(a) The efficacy of community engagement and benefit in planning, developing and operating the offshore wind industry

Recommendation 1: Further resources should be directed toward raising community awareness of the rationale for offshore wind as part of Australia's future energy mix, and providing greater clarity on the legislative and regulatory framework for offshore wind, from pre-determination of offshore areas, to decommissioning of offshore wind projects (including references to the points for community input).

At present, communities are very unfamiliar with offshore wind in Australia and have not received clear communication about the rationale for pursuing offshore wind as part of our future energy mix. Understandably, people have many questions about the technology, the project development processes, and the potential positive and negative social, economic and environmental impacts. In this context of uncertainty, and without access to easily

² Hicks, J & Mallee K (2023) [Regional Benefit Sharing - Creating strategic impacts for regions that host multiple renewable energy projects](#). Community Power Agency, Sydney.

³ McElnea, H & Carr, D (2024) [Building Better Biodiversity on Solar Farms – A Regenerative Guide to Nature Positive Solar Farming](#). Community Power Agency and Stringbark Ecological, Armidale.

⁴ Clean Energy Council, [A Guide To Benefit Sharing Options For Renewable Energy Projects](#) (October 2019).

⁵ TAS Department of State Growth, [Renewable Energy Development in Tasmania – A Guideline for Community Engagement, Benefit Sharing and Local Procurement](#) (May 2024).

⁶ VIC Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, [Community Engagement and Benefit Sharing in Renewable Energy Development in Victoria – A guide for renewable energy developers](#) (July 2021).

available and independent information, misinformation is taking hold in the communities proposed to host offshore wind zones.

In our experience, people are also apprehensive and concerned about the robustness of the legislative and regulatory framework for offshore wind projects. Community confidence in the power of existing environmental and planning laws to effectively mitigate the potential negative social and environmental impacts of offshore wind projects is lacking.

It is therefore imperative for the Australian Government to better communicate the rationale behind offshore wind, and the standards imposed on offshore wind proponents through the legislative and regulatory frameworks in place. This will help to build community understanding, trust and confidence in the robustness of these standards, and raise community awareness of opportunities to provide feedback on improving these standards.

An effective means for achieving this would be for the Australian Government to fund and support the establishment of [Local Energy Hubs](#) in communities impacted by offshore wind development. A coalition of civil society organisations have developed a [proposed Local Energy Hubs model](#),⁷ which would function as a network of 50 independent outreach centres in regional areas, empowering locals to actively participate in and benefit from the clean energy shift underway.⁸ As trusted local hubs for information, these outreach centres would actively build the social licence required for large-scale renewable energy development, including offshore wind.⁹

Other steps can also be taken to improve community confidence in the Ministerial decision-making process, including by publishing a statement of reasons for the decision to declare an offshore area under Section 17 of the [Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021](#) ('OEI Act'). Likewise, situations in which a proponent submits a referral for a determination of whether their project will be assessed under the [Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#) ('EPBC Act'), prior to the Minister's declaration of an offshore wind zone,¹⁰ should be prevented under the regulatory scheme. These steps are vital to upholding public confidence in the pre- and post- declaration process.

⁷ Policy Summary for Local Energy Hubs, available at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EXV-RzrSqPT9bLNIGjEQQvWY5I8MgOCH>.

⁸ Visit www.localenergyhubs.org.au.

⁹ Policy Summary for Local Energy Hubs, available at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EXV-RzrSqPT9bLNIGjEQQvWY5I8MgOCH>.

¹⁰ See e.g. Fernandez, T. and McLaren, N., 'BlueFloat pulls Illawarra wind farm plans submitted before offshore zone declared' (ABC News, 7 November 2024), available at:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-11-07/bluefloat-illawarra-wind-farm-plans-withdrawn/103074274>.

Furthermore, raising community awareness of the legal enforceability of approved management plans (to be developed at various stages in the feasibility, construction, operation and decommissioning phases of offshore wind projects, including the role of financial security for decommissioning), may help to ease public concerns about the upholding of best-practice standards at all stages of the project lifecycle. Likewise, communities should be guaranteed that high regulatory standards for approving management plans will be developed and enforced, to assure the quality of management plans self-prepared by proponents (which can otherwise be seen to create a conflict of interest).

Importantly, communities should also be given further clarity about *when* and *how* their input will be received by proponents and governments throughout the entire project lifecycle (for example, during the Offshore Infrastructure Regulators revisions of the management plan process every five years).

Recommendation 2: The role of government, in coordinating and managing the potential cumulative impact of multiple projects within an offshore area, should be clarified.

The cumulative impacts of multiple infrastructure projects, including multiple onshore and offshore wind farms, have potentially significant implications for communities across many areas including, but not limited to: workforce, training, housing cost and availability, economic disruption, overuse of public infrastructure and services, potential ecological and biodiversity impacts, engagement fatigue, benefit sharing strategies and more.

The Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner’s [Considerations for Offshore Wind Industry on Community Engagement](#) states that “[g]overnments are best placed to understand and take into consideration the direct and indirect cumulative impacts of proposed offshore declared areas and the projects that will follow.”¹¹

However, it is also stated that proponents should consider the “cumulative impacts of other existing or proposed large-scale infrastructure projects within the region. This may range from cumulative visual amenity or environmental impacts, impacts of multiple transmission lines to deliver energy generation or cumulative impacts of construction activities.”¹²

¹¹ Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, [Considerations for Offshore Wind Industry on Community Engagement](#) (Version 1.1, November 2023), p. 10.

¹² Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, [Considerations for Offshore Wind Industry on Community Engagement](#) (Version 1.1, November 2023), p. 5.

While it is important that all levels of governments work collaboratively with proponents to consider cumulative impacts (and benefits) of offshore wind projects, we suggest that the Australian Government clarify the coordination role of government in managing cumulative impacts from multiple projects. This may include resourcing local and/or state governments to identify and manage cumulative impacts, and undertaking a thorough strategic planning process addressing the cumulative effects of multiple projects in declared offshore Renewable Energy Zones (REZs).

Recommendation 3: Australia should adopt a ‘social dialogue model’ for policy development in the context of offshore wind, as demonstrated internationally (in jurisdictions such as Denmark and Spain).¹³

Given that Australia’s offshore wind industry is currently in its infancy, the Australian Government would do well to draw upon the learnings from successful offshore wind development in other jurisdictions, particularly in Europe.

Various sources refer to “[b]est practice Just Transition policy [that is] founded upon social dialogue models. That is, when government is planning major reforms, new industries or developing new policy it brings together representatives of employers, workers and research institutions and aims to co-develop policy with them. The additional effort involved in seeking consensus pays off in the form of stakeholder buy-in and more durable policy.”¹⁴

The Australian Government should leverage relationships with European countries, particularly Spain and Denmark,¹⁵ to understand and replicate an effective social dialogue model for co-designing the forthcoming policy and regulatory frameworks associated with offshore wind.

¹³ See e.g. Wakeham, M., ‘The Visible Hand of Industry Policy – Churchill Fellowship to visit successful ‘Just Transition’ climate change collaborations and consider their applicability to Australian contexts’ (Report, 2022), p. 19.

¹⁴ Wakeham, M., ‘The Visible Hand of Industry Policy – Churchill Fellowship to visit successful ‘Just Transition’ climate change collaborations and consider their applicability to Australian contexts’ (Report, 2022), p. 19. See also: Galgóczi, B. ‘Just transition on the ground: Challenges and opportunities for social dialogue’, *European Journal of Industrial Relations* (2020), vol. 26(4), pp. 367–382.

¹⁵ See e.g. Wakeham, M., ‘The Visible Hand of Industry Policy – Churchill Fellowship to visit successful ‘Just Transition’ climate change collaborations and consider their applicability to Australian contexts’ (Report, 2022), p. 14.

(b) Community engagement within the existing Australian Government offshore wind industry regulatory and legislative frameworks

Recommendation 4: The merit criteria associated with offshore wind licences should be strengthened, to give due weight to community interests.

Chapter 3 of the [Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021](#) ('OEI Act') sets out that the Minister, in deciding whether to grant a licence, will consider the following merit criteria:

- (a) technical and financial capability of the applicant
- (b) likelihood the project will be viable
- (c) suitability of the applicant to hold a licence
- (d) any criteria prescribed (under regulation) by the licensing scheme.

Additionally, as set out in Section 25 of the [Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Regulations 2022](#) ('OEI Regulations'), the Minister must also be satisfied that the proposed project for a licence is in the national interest.

Under Section 26(4) of the OEI Regulations, in deciding whether a proposed project for a licence is in the national interest, the Minister **may** consider one or more of the following:

- (a) the project's impact on, and contribution to, the Australian economy and local communities, including in relation to regional development, job creation, Australian industries and the use of Australian goods and services;
- (b) national security;
- (c) whether the project is likely to be delivered within a reasonable time;
- (d) whether the project is likely to make efficient use of the licence area;
- (e) conflicts that might arise with other uses or users of the licence area;
- (f) any measures that are proposed to mitigate such conflicts;
- (g) any other matters the Minister considers relevant.

We recommend that these further considerations are strengthened to ensure that local and regional community interests are given due weight in the Minister's decision about whether to grant a licence.

We also recommend that the regulations are amended to ensure that the Minister **must** consider (a) the project's impact on, and contribution to, the Australian economy and local communities, including in relation to regional development, job creation, Australian industries and the use of Australian goods and services. This should include consideration of the project's approach to community consultation and engagement (historical and planned), the project's proposed community and regional benefit sharing schemes, opportunities for community co-investment and/or co-ownership of the project, and any proposed opportunities for education and training of local job seekers.

We also recommend that an additional list item is added to ensure that the Minister **must** demonstrate engagement with, and consideration of impacts and benefit sharing for, First Nations communities and Traditional Owners of the Sea Country that the proposed project will impact (note that we further consider First Nations rights below, in part (c) of this submission).

We further suggest that the regulations are amended such that the Minister **must** consider (e) conflicts that might arise with other uses or users of the licence area, and proposed steps or measures taken to mitigate such conflicts. Ideally this would involve a collaborative approach involving project proponents and local stakeholders to identify proposed solutions.

These suggested amendments would better promote a 'race to the top' for project proponents, in terms of contributing to local and regional community interests and mitigating negative social and environmental impacts (note that we consider environmental impacts of offshore wind in detail below, in part (d) of this submission).

Recommendation 5: Best practice standards for community engagement and benefit sharing should be integrated into the regulatory framework for offshore wind.

We commend the Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner for putting together the [Considerations for Offshore Wind Industry on Community Engagement](#).¹⁶ However, we suggest that these are further developed and strengthened in the following key areas:

- Engagement with local workforces and job seekers, as well as local suppliers, to develop strategies for meeting local employment and procurement targets.

¹⁶ Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, [Considerations for Offshore Wind Industry on Community Engagement](#) (Version 1.1, November 2023).

- Engagement with communities on opportunities for co-ownership, co-investment, community and regional benefit sharing.

We also suggest that these considerations could be strengthened, with clearer roles for governments (for example, in coordinating cumulative impacts and ensuring regional benefit sharing schemes are in place), and enforceable standards expected of industry proponents. These standards should be considered as part of the merit criteria for offshore wind licensing (as suggested above under Recommendation 4), incorporated into licence holder management plans and enforced by the Offshore Infrastructure Regulator. We recommend reviewing the merit criteria that is currently being developed (and continually refined) for the Capacity Investment Scheme, which would function well as a baseline for more specific merit criteria in the context of offshore wind.

(c) The adherence to the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent from Traditional Owners of the affected Sea Country by the Australian Government and offshore wind industry

Recommendation 6: First Nations people should be empowered to exercise their rights to self-determination in the context of offshore wind, and these rights embedded into the regulatory scheme.

We are pleased to see that the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) have developed guidance on [Offshore Renewables and First Nations people](#).¹⁷ However, we recommend that this guidance is strengthened to empower First Nations people to exercise their rights to self-determination, and that these rights are integrated into the regulatory scheme for offshore wind.

DCCEEW's guidance on [Offshore Renewables and First Nations people](#) sets out that “[s]ubject to draft regulations, [offshore wind] licence holders will be required to consult with First Nations communities or groups with a cultural connection to the licence area and to document the outcome of this consultation in the management plan for the project.”¹⁸

¹⁷ Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, [Offshore Renewables and First Nations people](#) (2024).

¹⁸ Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, [Offshore Renewables and First Nations people](#) (2024), p. 2.

We support regulatory requirements for First Nations consultation, however, we suggest that a more proactive, First Nations led approach is integrated into the regulatory scheme. First Nations concerns and opportunities, identified in the Government’s pre-declaration public consultation process, may be used as a starting point for developing a First Nations consultation plan, to be designed and implemented by First Nations people. This would allow First Nations communities to lead their engagement with licence holders and to “*negotiate benefit sharing arrangements*”¹⁹ in line with the principles of self-determination, rather than through processes designed and implemented by licence holders.

The forthcoming [First Nations Clean Energy Strategy](#),²⁰ when released later this year, may be a useful document to guide further development of opportunities for First Nations self-determination in the context of offshore wind.

Recommendation 7: The Government should commit resources to enable First Nations people to actively participate in the consultation process for offshore wind.

Resources will need to be committed to enable First Nations people to undertake engagement and planning outlined above, and for the management of financial and other benefits (that will be delivered as part of offshore wind industry benefit sharing schemes).

We are pleased to see that the DCCEEW’s guidance on [Offshore Renewables and First Nations people](#) sets out that “[t]he Department’s expectation is that First Nations groups will be provided funding by the industry to support meaningful and timely engagement.”²¹

However, we suggest that this expectation is regulated and levied under a framework similar to the [Cost Recovery Implementation Statement \(CRIS\) for the Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021](#),²² to ensure that First Nations groups receive funding to carry out engagement and strategic planning activities independently, without undue influence from

¹⁹ Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, [Offshore Renewables and First Nations people](#) (2024), p. 2.

²⁰ First Nations Clean Energy Strategy (forthcoming), as referenced by the [Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council](#) (Webpage, 2024).

²¹ Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, [Offshore Renewables and First Nations people](#) (2024), p. 1.

²² Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) and the Offshore Infrastructure Registrar, [Cost Recovery Implementation Statement \(CRIS\) for the Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021](#) (September 2022).

industry. This should include both funding and other capacity-building support, to mitigate engagement fatigue for First Nations communities.

(d) the impact of the offshore wind industry on marine life and marine environments in Australian waters, including strategies for impact minimisation and management

Recommendation 8: There should be greater investment in research and communication to address community concerns and misinformation about the environmental impacts of offshore wind projects.

Communities impacted by newly declared offshore wind zones have legitimate questions about the potential environmental impacts of large-scale offshore wind development, and are frustrated at the lack of trusted sources of information, locally relevant data and credible, independent research. This threatens the social licence for offshore wind and requires targeted investment in both research and communication.

A coalition of civil society organisations [propose that the Government create a dedicated Research Centre](#),²³ to lead research on renewables, environment and social impact for the energy transition and be a publicly credible source of facts. The Centre would produce clear, publicly accessible information and undertake outreach to share these resources with communities on the front line of the energy transition. Ideally hosted by the highly credible CSIRO, this Centre would meet the community's calls for research and information about offshore wind that they can trust.

In addition, the [Local Energy Hubs](#) (as mentioned above under Recommendation 1) would play an instrumental role in ensuring accessible and independent information is available in communities. Recent research has demonstrated that local people are most likely to trust local voices on these issues,²⁴ indicating the importance of building local sources of information and resourcing local champions. In addition, Local Energy Hubs would provide feedback loops between communities, government and the proposed research centre, to

²³ Policy Summary for Renewables, Environment & Social Research Centre (RESRC), available at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15UyDRa1kXrq6yZ2GX4HOR4gBz0RHSzx2/view?usp=sharing>.

²⁴ Research into regional community attitudes to renewable energy including offshore wind undertaken by Essential Media, commissioned by RE-Alliance in 2024 (forthcoming).

assist with directing future activities to best address community concerns and build social licence for renewable energy.

Recommendation 9: The regulatory framework for managing the environmental impacts of offshore wind should be strengthened, to instil community confidence in the integrity of environmental management plans.

We thank the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for developing guidance on the [Key environmental factors for offshore windfarm environmental impact assessment under the EPBC Act 1999](#).²⁵

While the [Environment Planning and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#) ('EPBC Act') is an important mechanism for safeguarding 'Matters of National Environmental Significance' (MNES), there are other environmental concerns raised by community members which fall outside the ambit of the EPBC Act.

We understand that, under the existing [Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021](#) ('OEI Act') framework, offshore wind licence holders are required to develop "*[m]anagement plans [which] will address a broad range of matters including workplace health and safety, environmental management, infrastructure integrity, consultation outcomes and decommissioning.*"²⁶ While a management plan is "*a legally enforceable document under the OEI [Act] framework and provides a basis to monitor ongoing compliance*",²⁷ there remains community concern that management plans prepared by licence holders will not adequately identify, address or monitor environmental impacts. As we have suggested above (under Recommendation 3), communities must be guaranteed that high regulatory standards for approving management plans will be developed and enforced, to assure the quality of management plans self-prepared by proponents (which can otherwise be seen to create a conflict of interest).

We note that "*[m]anagement plan content requirements and the criteria for approval are contingent on finalisation of the OEI [Act] Amendment Regulations, [which] are currently*

²⁵ Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), [Key environmental factors for offshore windfarm environmental impact assessment under the EPBC Act 1999](#) (July 2023).

²⁶ Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, [Considerations for Offshore Wind Industry on Community Engagement](#) (Version 1.1, November 2023), p. 12.

²⁷ Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, [Considerations for Offshore Wind Industry on Community Engagement](#) (Version 1.1, November 2023), p. 12.

being developed by [DCCEEW].”²⁸ We suggest that these regulatory requirements and criteria include mandated standards for both licence holders and decision-makers (such as the Offshore Wind Regulator) to consult with communities and stakeholders, to ensure an adequate degree of independence from vested interests in project approval.

Recommendation 10: The Government should commit to identifying and managing potential cumulative environmental and social impacts of offshore wind, beyond the ambit of the EPBC Act.

We also understand that “[t]he Department is considering a policy approach under the EPBC Act to support regional regulation to manage the potential cumulative impacts of this emerging industry. This would include applying regional planning approaches to inform effective management of cumulative impacts in the marine environment at appropriate regional scales (for example at individual project scale and the offshore renewable declaration area scale).”²⁹

We support a policy approach that aims to manage potential cumulative environmental impacts from multiple projects, however, we would like to see a similar approach employed beyond the ambit of the EPBC Act, to ensure that community concerns about cumulative environmental and social impacts (that are not currently afforded protection under the EPBC Act) are adequately addressed.

(e) any other related matters

Recommendation 11: The Government should develop guidelines for community and regional benefit sharing, community co-ownership, and co-investment opportunities, in the context of offshore wind.

As mentioned above (under part (b) of this submission), community and regional benefit sharing, community co-ownership, and co-investment opportunities, should be considered by the Minister in determining whether a proposed project meets the merit criteria for

²⁸ Offshore Infrastructure Regulator, Guidance and regulation: Management plans (Webpage, available at: <https://www.oir.gov.au/guidance-and-regulation/management-plans>).

²⁹ DCCEEW, [Key environmental factors for offshore windfarm environmental impact assessment under the EPBC Act 1999](#) (July 2023), p. 7.

obtaining a licence under the OEI Act. Opportunities for community co-ownership and co-investment in offshore wind projects has played a positive role in building social licence and delivering community benefits in European countries, such as Denmark.

Related to this matter, we suggest that the Offshore Infrastructure Regulator develop guidelines for community and regional benefit sharing, community co-ownership, and co-investment opportunities, in the context of offshore wind. This would encourage further development of best practice benefit sharing arrangements for the offshore wind industry, and would provide communities with a baseline for developing strategic plans for benefit sharing and negotiating with project proponents in this regard.

Conclusion

We thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission to the Senate Inquiry into the offshore wind industry consultation process. We would welcome the opportunity to follow up and provide additional detail on any of the points made herein, if desired.

Regards,

Ms. Claudia Hodge and Dr. Jarra Hicks

Community Power Agency

Website: www.cpagency.org.au

Email: team@cpagency.org.au

Phone: 0413 712 101