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14 October 2011

Dale Stewart, CEO Shire of Denmark South Coast Highway Denmark

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Dear Dale

Denmark Community Windfarm Ltd - Development Application

Please find attached the Development Application for the Denmark community windfarm. As you know the proposal has been comprehensively assessed and approved by every relevant regulatory agency, and had thorough public input via TPS-3 Amendment 88.

Now half the size of the original proposal, the windfarm layout remains consistent with the Scheme Amendment, and this application explicitly and properly deals with the Amendment 88 'Conditions of Public Use', drawing on recent experience from the Mt Barker windfarm and the Grasmere extension of the Albany windfarm.

The remaining formalities related to development approval – a lease over the WEF zone, and a clearing permit – have been approved in principle by the relevant agencies, and will be formalised following approval of this development application.

We therefore request that the Shire now

- (a) expedite assessment of this application, because:
 - the project has already had thorough public input at the appropriate times; has resounding local support, as evidenced by council's own 2008 community survey; and is no longer an "issue", having achieved all the necessary planning approvals
 - the project's federal government grant requires it to meet milestones within strict (and increasingly tight) timeframes
 - building the windfarm is contingent upon civil and electrical works being completed before turbine delivery, the timing of which is itself a critical factor in the project's success
 - the optimal period for civil works is late spring-early summer; and for turbine construction the low wind-speed months of April-June.
- (b) consider waiving the prescribed application fee, in view of the fact that
 - the proposed development is a public utility which will serve all Denmark residents and visitors
 - as a shareholder in the windfarm, Denmark Community Windfarm Inc, the originating body, will redistribute its entire project income, currently estimated to be worth \$15-20,000 per annum, back into the community, via a community enterprise fund.

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The windfarm is a major local infrastructure initiative with many local benefits. It has attracted more than \$2.4m of federal funding into the Denmark area, and more than \$1.5m in local investment. DCW Ltd and DCW Inc are both committed to community development and renewable energy, and are keen to work with the Shire and the community to integrate management of the windfarm into the objectives of the Shire's overall reserve management strategies.

Yours sincerely

Craig Chappelle Acting Chairman

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