



APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

Application Summary

The Warradarge Wind Farm

This application is for the construction and operation of a 180MW wind farm at Warradarge in the Mid West Region of Western Australia, with a new 10km power transmission line providing connection into the 330kV Neerabup to Three Springs transmission line of the South West Interconnected System (SWIS).

The proposed Warradarge Wind Farm (WDW) will be located approximately 260km north Perth in the Shires of Coorow (the location of the WDW) and Carnamah (the location of interconnecting high voltage power line).

The coordinates of the centre of the wind farm site are located at: -29.965° latitude and 115.486° longitude, approximately 15km north east of Warradarge Road House and inland some 25kms directly East from Green Head.

The Applicant

The Applicant for the Generation Licence is **BEI WWF Pty Ltd as trustee for the WWF Trust**. The WWF Trust is part of the Bright Energy Investments group of companies and trusts (BEI) established for the development and operation of renewable energy generation assets.

BEI is jointly owned by the Dutch Infrastructure Fund (DIF), an independent fund management company with €5.6 billion under management globally, Cbus, Australia's largest superannuation fund with \$45 billion under management and Synergy, Western Australia's leading energy generator and retailer.

BEI also owns and operates the 10MW Greenough River Solar Farm in the Mid West Region of Western Australia, which is currently undergoing the construction of a 30MW expansion at the site. The BEI group also owns and operates the 35.4MW Albany Grasmere Wind Farm near Albany in the south of the State.

Proposed Licenced Services

The licensed services will include electricity generation only. Power generated by the WDW will all be sold wholesale to Synergy under a long term power purchase agreement.

Description of the Service Infrastructure/Works

The works involve the construction of a 180MW wind farm. The facility will consist of 51 turbines rated at 3.6MW each. The exact turbine tower locations are still being finalised, however they will be largely distributed over the ridge lines on the lots within the licence area (bounded in red) in Figure A below. Figure A also shows the approximate turbine locations and the interconnection to the existing 330kV transmission line north east of the wind farm site. Turbine hub heights are 84m above ground level and the maximum blade tip height will be 152m.

In addition to the turbines, there will be supporting ancillary equipment including local power reticulation, high voltage transformers and associated protection equipment, all located on the licence area.

A new 10km transmission line will be constructed by Western Power to connect the wind farm (reticulated from the north west corner of the WDW site) to the existing Western Power 330kV SWIS network.



Figure A – WDW Site

Regulatory Approvals

Development Approval for the WDW has been granted for up to 100 wind turbine towers (51 in the current proposal). The Development Approval was originally granted in 2012 but has subsequently been extended until August 2022.

Turbines are being sited on previously cleared land wherever possible to minimise the need to clear remnant vegetation. The WDW licence area has been surveyed for aboriginal heritage, flora and fauna as part of the Development Approval process. Certain construction related approvals will be required prior to the commencement of the construction phase in 2019.

An Electricity Transfer and Access Contract has been executed with Western Power for the WDW to connect into the SWIS.

Construction on site is currently scheduled to commence in May 2019 with first power generated in September 2020.

Public Interest Information

A Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been prepared and implemented. Consultation has been ongoing with the community, local governments and nearby landowners over a number of years. The project has been warmly welcomed by the hosting landowners and the surrounding community.

The wind farm is located in a traditional cropping/farming area. The windfarm itself will have very limited impacts on the farming activities on the land once construction is complete.

Given the low potential conflict with current land uses, the sparsely populated locality and the low overall environmental impact of the wind farm once in operation, it is considered that the project will have a significant net public interest benefit based on the 180MW of renewable power generation capacity.