

Cindy Westbrook

From: Cindy Westbrook on behalf of Stephen Gash
Sent: Tuesday, 1 February 2011 3:33 PM
To: Dominique Hodge
Subject: ICR2876 - FW: MHE DA Response
SynergySoft: ICR2876

Stephen has viewed this and not forwarded

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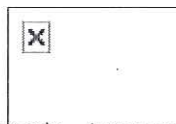
Cindy Westbrook
Personal Assistant to the CEO
SHIRE OF KOJONUP

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FOR RECIPIENTS EXTERNAL TO THE SHIRE OF KOJONUP

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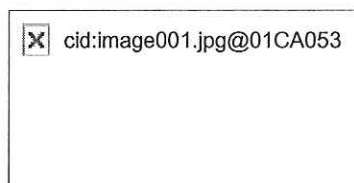


From: Michael Baulch [mailto:michael@baulch.com.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 1 February 2011 9:40 AM
To: Stephen Gash
Subject: MHE DA Response

Steve,

Please find attached my support for the MHE DA.

Cheers



Michael Baulch

Moonies Hill Energy Pty Ltd
PO Box 108, Kojonup, WA, 6395
P: 0898 311 166
F: 0898 311 608

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**KOJONUP
BUS
SERVICE**

31 January 2011

Stephen Gash
CEO
Shire of Kojonup
PO Box 163
Kojonup, WA, 6395

Dear Stephen,

I write in relation to the Flat Rocks Wind Farm Development Application. It should be noted that I am financially involved in Moonies Hill Energy.

My support for the project since 2007 is based on the positive economic effects for Kojonup and the Great Southern and the positive environmental impacts for the whole of WA.

There seems to be a lot of public discussion on the development of the project. MHE have been thorough in their application of planning guidelines and completing the necessary studies. These studies are particular to the Flat Rocks project and take into account all aspects of the development. They are not studies completed on anecdotal evidence or projects that may be governed by different guidelines.

I would like to highlight some of the community concerns that have been raised recently;

- Exclusion zones – the exclusion zones used by MHE are one kilometre from sensitive residences as required by the planning guidelines. The community assumption that these are 800 metres is false. The WA planning guidelines are the strictest in the world.
- Health concerns – there is no evidence that wind turbines affect health. Anecdotal and evidence from other jurisdictions may deal with turbines that are less than 1 km and often less than 500m from sensitive residences. Health related concerns are dealt with in the NHMRC paper “Wind Turbines and Health – A rapid review of the Evidence (July 2010)”.
- Property prices – There is no evidence that wind farms affect property prices. Seasonal conditions and commodity prices are more likely to influence property prices. This has been researched in the paper “Wind farms and property prices – Preliminary assessment of the impact of wind farms on surrounding land values in Australia. Prepared by the NSW Valuer General (Duponts August 2009)”.

One fact that seems to have escaped the recent discussion is the major positive impact that this project will have on businesses and employment in the Kojonup area. 200 construction jobs, 10 permanent jobs, the development of a sustainable communities fund and \$30 million injected into the community will create opportunities that do not currently exist locally.

I will continue to support this exciting project and trust that the Councillors will prepare themselves with the facts about the development of this renewable power venture.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Baulch.



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