



New South Wales Government

The Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Police
Minister for Lands
Minister for Rural Affairs
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

Tuesday, 30 June 2009

HISTORIC AGREEMENT FOR SILVERTON WIND FARM

Minister for Lands Tony Kelly today signed an “agreement to lease” for one of the largest on-shore wind farms in the world to be located on 32,000 hectares of Crown land near Silverton, northwest of Broken Hill.

The proponents of the wind farm project, Silverton Wind Farm Developments Pty Ltd, were also on hand at the New South Wales Parliament House for the signing.

“This important investment in both the environment and infrastructure will bring jobs to the western regions,” said Mr Kelly.

“The construction of up to 598 turbines for this \$2.2 billion wind farm is a major development of both state and national significance with the potential to provide electricity to three states.”

“The first stage of the project will deliver an estimated 700 jobs to the Broken Hill area during the five-year construction period and 120 jobs during operation of the project.

“A single wind turbine will generate enough energy to power up to 732 homes per year which is the equivalent of taking around 1,170 cars off the road annually.

“By harnessing of wind power we’re making a greener grid, ensuring the state’s electricity supply is more sustainable for future generations.

Mr Kelly said the signing followed the Premier’s announcement of planning approval for the project at the beginning of this month.

“Rees Government is committed to creating and securing jobs in rural and regional NSW during tough economic times,” Mr Kelly said.

“Funds from the lease agreement will provide vital funding for other Crown land initiatives in the western division.”

“Silverton Wind Farm Developments have also committed to establishing a community fund of \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year for local infrastructure projects,” Mr Kelly said.

Media Contact: Alex McGregor on 0404 015 556



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BACKGROUND:

About Silverton Wind Farm Developments

Silverton Wind Farm Developments Pty Ltd is a joint venture between EPURON Pty Ltd and Macquarie Capital Wind Fund Pty Ltd, a Macquarie managed fund jointly owned by Macquarie Capital Group Ltd and a subsidiary of Martifer Group. The joint venture was established for the purpose of developing, constructing and operating the Silverton Wind Farm for electricity generation in NSW

IMPORTANT STATEMENT ABOUT POLITICAL DONATIONS

New donation disclosure laws came into effect on 1 October 2008. Under the new laws, proponents are required to disclose political donations made by anyone with a financial interest in the project made in the previous two years. Where there is a declarable political donation, the independent Planning Assessment Commission determines the application. More information on the process for assessing applications from proponents who have made political donations is available from

<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/assessingdev/donations.asp>

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Records on the Electoral Funding Authority website show that Macquarie Bank Limited has made political donations to the NSW Labor, Liberal and National parties.

http://www.efa.nsw.gov.au/state_government_elections/election_funding_reports/state_general_election_2007

The application for the Silverton Wind Farm was received on 23 January 2008, and amended on the 30 July 2008. As such, the Minister for Planning is the consent authority.