



Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

Consolidated Power Projects Australia Pty Ltd (CPP) is proud to have been involved in sixteen (16) of Australia's operational wind farms since 1999, particularly contributing to this fast growing energy sector in South Australia (SAESPIC report 2009). Wind power now contributes to in excess of 10% of energy supplied to South Australian homes and businesses, reducing the reliance on fossil fuels – crucial in a time of ever increasing oil prices and instability in the Middle East.

CPP works closely with organisations wishing to construct wind farms, and supports their implementation by providing the essential balance of plant scope of works for the electrical connection of the wind farm to the relevant electrical grid and on occasion the civil engineering works (ie access roads, foundations and hardstands) for the wind generators. As a result, 65% of our annual turnover (\$78 in 2010) is directly linked to the wind sector, and we look forward to strengthening our business share of this sector with our newly established operations in New South Wales and Victoria. We anticipate further expansion into Queensland and Western Australia should wind farm projects gain momentum in these states.

Established in 1996, CPP's growth in recent years mirrors the strong growth of the wind power sector, increasing from a workforce of two (2) staff members in 2001, to ninety seven (97) across three states today. Our employees range from engineers and design drafters to project managers and trade skills (eg electricians; electrical fitters; apprentice electricians; steel fixers; carpenters and others trade skills in building and construction). In addition, as many as one hundred (100) sub-contracted personnel are involved on a typical larger scale wind farm project. Our personnel base is also highly diverse, with a large proportion of skilled migrants sharing their engineering and project management knowledge and expertise with us. CPP is also committed to forging close working relationships with local and national suppliers at all levels. As such, CPP procured more than \$50M of materials and services from local plant & material suppliers and service providers in the financial year ending June 2010.

Our company is committed to maintaining the highest standards in our work, and as such our operations conform to the ISO 9001: 2008 Quality Management System and our Safety Systems comply with the requirements of AS 4801. We are also dedicated to the development of strong Environmental Management Plans on projects to safeguard our Australian environment.

The operational success of CPP is reliant on the continued growth of the wind power sector, and we further believe that our contribution to Australia's energy independence and the environment is invaluable.

In essence the growth and development of wind power in Australia has resulted in :

- Meaningful jobs; including the training and development of Australian working people;
- A significant amount of 'added economic value' for the broader commercial and industrial sector in the country (as evidenced above for a small company such as CPP);
- The retention of vital technical / engineering skills that can be readily applied to other sectors of the power industry (eg power transmission and power distribution).

In considering the broader and longer term issues, CPP strongly believes that it is not in the interests of the country or the wider community to reject and oppose renewable energy technology (in this instance wind power) and its advances and/or development. Our company has this point of view because the world ultimately has a finite supply of fossil fuels and therefore we need to use these fuels as prudently as possible (thereby prolonging their availability) whilst simultaneously working on the development of new energy technologies in the hope they will successfully emerge for future generations to use.

Furthermore, the large scale application of renewable energy also decreases the emission of greenhouse gases which, in our view, is again prudent given that there is significant risk that wholesale release of greenhouse gases from the burning of fossil fuels over the long term will affect the planet's atmosphere and climate, and that some of the resultant effects may well be negative.

If you have any questions, or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the under signed.

**Yours faithfully**

**Consolidated Power Projects Australia Pty Ltd**

**Charles Wright**

***General Manager***