



Support Offshore Wind Zone in the Illawarra - Submission Guide

The Commonwealth Government is currently consulting on a proposal to declare an Offshore Wind zone in the Illawarra region, following similar declarations of the cost of Newcastle and Gippsland region in Victoria.

Development of offshore wind resources is critical to decarbonising the electricity grid and meeting our climate targets.

LEAN is strongly supportive of the environmental benefits, and job creating opportunities that offshore wind will generate.

Offshore wind is a proven technology used around the world. Unfortunately Australia lags behind, despite the unparalleled opportunities our geography presents us. As is done around the world, local impacts on marine ecologies, visual amenity and other industries can be effectively managed with best practice regulations.

Key Facts:

- The proposed offshore area is 1461 square kilometres with the potential to generate up to 4.2GW from offshore wind farms.
- That is enough to power 3.4m homes.
- Just one turn of one offshore wind turbine provides as much energy as an average rooftop solar installation generates in a whole day.
- Offshore wind produces more energy and is more consistent than onshore wind.

How to make a submission

Go to: <https://consult.dcceew.gov.au/oei-illawarra/take-the-survey>

Click next to confirm you have read the privacy statement, and select if you would like your comments to be public, public and anonymous, or confidential. Enter your contact details.

Question one:

Select that you are supportive.

Which of the following best describes your standpoint on the proposed area being declared for offshore renewable energy? *

Note: Further details can be provided below. If you would prefer, you can upload a written submission on the following page.

- Supportive
- Supportive, but have specific/other concerns
- Neither Supportive or Opposed, but have specific/other concerns
- Opposed with specific/other concerns
- Opposed

Question two: Environment.

Select that Yes, you see benefits, add a comment like the one below, and that you have no concerns. Amending these comments to your own words is more powerful.

Can you see any benefits or opportunities related to the environment for offshore wind in this proposed area?

- Yes
- No

Please list the key benefits.

Offshore wind is critical to decarbonising the electricity grid and meeting Australia's climate targets.

Do you have any concerns related to the environment for offshore wind in this proposed area?

- Yes
- No

Question three: Community and onshore transmission

Select yes there are benefits, and add a comment in relation to job opportunities. Select No to additional concerns.

Can you see any **benefits or opportunities** related to the **community and onshore transmission** for offshore wind in this proposed area?

- Yes
- No

Please list the key benefits.

Onshore transmission infrastructure can also create local employment opportunities. The proximity of this wind zone to the Wollongong Industrial sector and its high electricity use presents significant opportunities for the development of new green industries.

Do you have any **concerns** related to the **community and onshore transmission** for offshore wind in this proposed area?

- Yes
- No

Question Four: Fishing

Select yes to benefits and opportunities, add a brief comment, and No for concerns.

Can you see any **benefits or opportunities** related to **fishing** for offshore wind in this proposed area?

- Yes
- No

Please list the key benefits.

The floating turbines may create habitat for fish and other marine life, and these opportunities should be investigated alongside best practice marine conservation.

Do you have any **concerns** related to **fishing** for offshore wind in this proposed area?

- Yes
- No

Question five: visual amenity

Indicate that you are not concerned about visual amenity and that the proposal already accounts for these concerns.

Do you have any **concerns** related to **visual amenity** for offshore wind in this proposed area?

- Yes
- No

Please list your key concerns.

Please note why you don't have any concerns related to visual amenity.

I am not concerned about the visual amenity of wind turbines. I believe the proposed area already accounts for visual amenity proposing them sufficiently offshore. Offshore wind may enhance the amenity and serve as a visual tourist attraction.

Question 6: Other

You can select no additional comments, or you can make a comment about the size of the proposed area being smaller than other areas across the country.

Can you see any other benefits or opportunities for offshore wind in this proposed area?

Yes

No

Do you have any other concerns for offshore wind in this proposed area?

Yes

No

Please list your key concerns.

The proposed area is smaller than the Newcastle proposal and significantly smaller than the Gippsland offshore wind area. To maximize the opportunities offshore wind could bring to the region, opportunities to extend the area should be considered.