



Kate Washington MP

MEMBER FOR PORT STEPHENS

14 November 2023

Mr Tim Crosdale
Port Stephens Council
PO Box 42
RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324
VIA: Ann.Edwards@portstephens.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Crosdale,

I refer to your letter regarding the declaration of the Hunter Offshore Wind Zone and the motions carried by Port Stephens Council on the 10th & 24th of October.

As Councillors are aware, the declaration of the Hunter Offshore Wind Zone was made by the Commonwealth Government. The approval process for any future proposals, are also the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government.

As Councillors are also aware, to date, there has not been any windfarm proposal submitted, considered or approved.

Since the declaration of the Hunter Offshore Wind Zone by the Federal Government, I have spoken with local recreational and commercial fishers, local tourism operators and residents regarding their concerns.

Many residents have also shared their concerns with me via letters, emails and social media.

I have raised all of the concerns that have been shared with me, with The Hon Chris Bowen MP, Federal Minister for Climate Change & Energy, The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Federal Minister for the Environment & Water and The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC, Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for Heritage and Minister for the Environment in NSW.





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I understand that the Federal Government is currently seeking expressions of interest for feasibility license applications until today, 14 November 2023.

I recently spoke with Chris Bowen who confirmed his commitment to consulting with our community in the event that any proponent seeks a feasibility licence off the coast of Port Stephens.

I appreciate the genuine care and interest many residents have in our local environment, particularly our environmentally sensitive waterways and marine habitat. Over many years, I have been a strong advocate for Port Stephens' beautiful, unique environment on the land and water, and that will never change.

As the wind zone declaration and approval process is an entirely Commonwealth Government matter, please refer to the Federal Member for Paterson, Meryl Swanson for further information.

If I can be of any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office by emailing portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au or calling 4987 4455.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kate Washington'.

Kate Washington MP
Member for Port Stephens

