

# Star of the South Consultation Report

OCTOBER 2019



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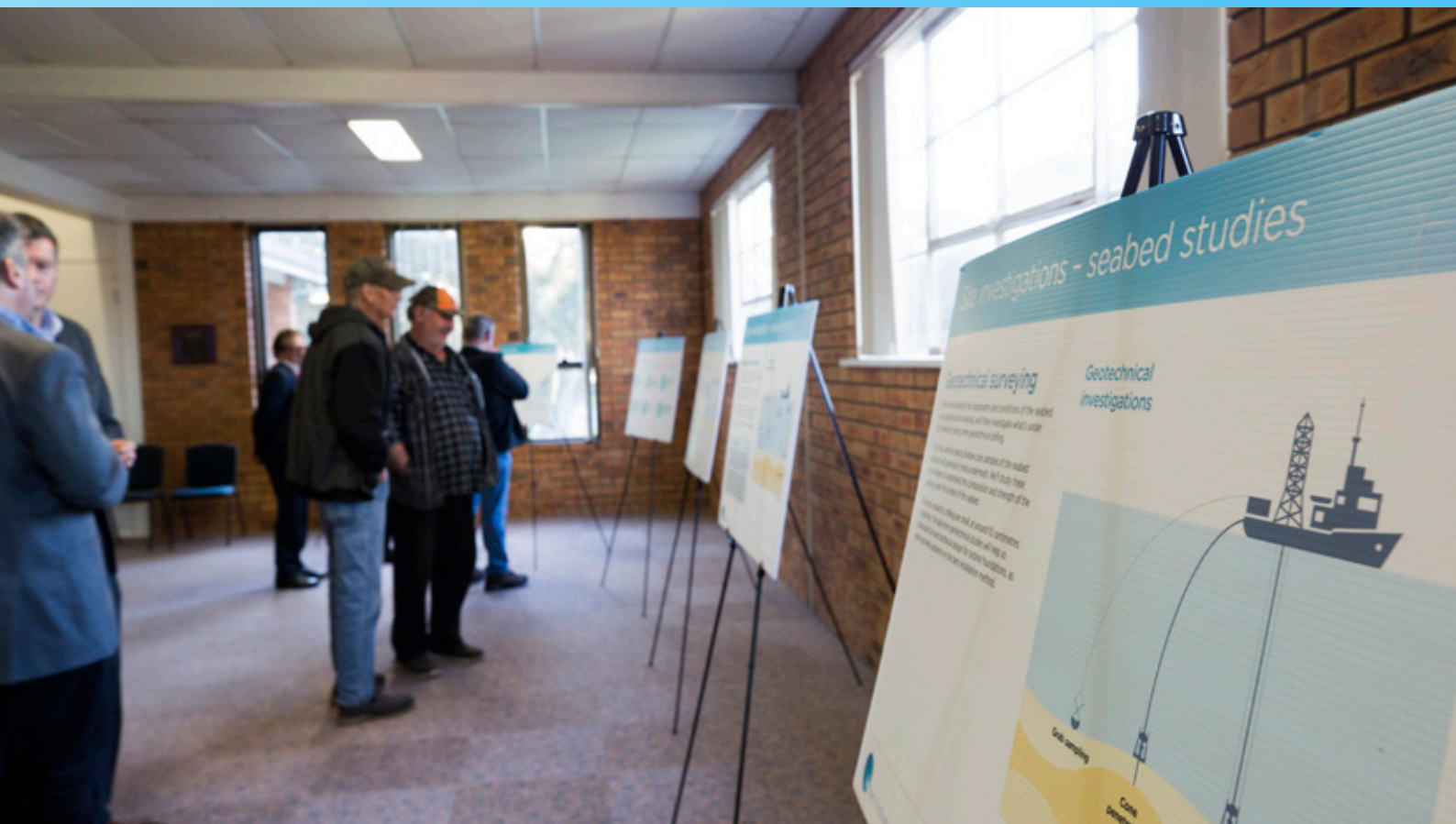
**REPORTING PERIOD: 29 August 2019 to 29 September 2019**

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Casper Frost Thorhauge



# Introduction

**This consultation report outlines how we consulted with stakeholders and local communities on the early stages of the Star of the South project, including site investigations which are planned to commence in late 2019.**

The Star of the South project was founded on a commitment to strong community and stakeholder involvement.

During August and September 2019, we ran a comprehensive program of formal consultation to to:

- share information about the project and upcoming site investigations
- hear from locals about potential issues and opportunities early in the project's development.

We were particularly interested to hear suggestions or feedback from locals regarding upcoming site investigations.

We primarily sought to engage with local communities in towns near the project area, businesses, industry, local government and recreational and commercial fishers.

Consultation was undertaken through an online community engagement platform, six community information sessions, social media dialogue, emails, phone calls and stakeholder meetings.

# How we promoted the consultation

The Star of the South project is in an early phase of development, so raising awareness of the project and consultation opportunities was an important part of our consultation program.

To maximise participation and raise broad project awareness and understanding, we used a range of communication and promotional activities including social media, newsletters, local newspaper and radio advertising, existing stakeholder channels and our online engagement platform Get Involved.

Here's a snapshot of our promotional activities; with examples provided in Appendix A.



**126 radio ads** and sponsorship of **Gippsland FM community radio**



**14 local newspaper ads**



Project newsletter sent to **50,000 households** across Gippsland



**Eight TV, radio and newspaper articles**



Facebook posts **reaching over 6,100 people**, with more than **220 likes and comments**



Direct emails to **150 stakeholders** to advise of consultation opportunities



**99 SMS notifications sent to commercial fisherman** about the community sessions



# How we collected feedback

## Community information sessions

Six community information sessions were held during September in towns across Gippsland. More than 300 locals attended the sessions to hear about the project and site investigations planned for late 2019.

### Locations, timing and attendance

Date	Time	Location	Attendees
12 September	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Italian Australian Sporting Club, Morwell	86
13 September	5:00pm - 7:00pm	Central Hotel, Lakes Entrance	51
16 September	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Yarram Secondary College, Yarram	68
17 September	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Woodside Hall, Woodside	52
21 September	10:00am - 12:00pm	Leongatha Memorial Hall, Leongatha	20
21 September	2:00pm - 4:00pm	Port Franklin Community Hall, Port Franklin	27

## Session format

Each session took place over two hours and included:

- a presentation from the team followed by an opportunity to ask questions
- access to numerous fact sheets and information displays
- almost two hours of face-to-face individual or small group discussions with project team members
- feedback via hard copy surveys, or people were directed online to have their say via the Get Involved online engagement platform.



Handouts available for attendees to take away for further reading included:

- **Project newsletter:** containing a project overview, information about site investigations and how to provide feedback.
- **Project overview:** featuring information on the project location and current status, how offshore wind works, potential benefits, information on the team and how to get in touch.
- **Site investigations:** including details on the exploration licence area, what will be measured and investigated at sea and on land as well as how geotechnical and geophysical investigations are conducted.
- **Planning and environmental assessment and approvals:** including details on the various assessments and approvals the project must complete and relevant regulations during the site investigations process and beyond.
- **Measuring the wind and wave conditions:** featuring details about investigations at sea, including floating LiDARs and their exact locations and safety information for vessels when navigating around the equipment.





## Stakeholder meetings

Meetings were held with key stakeholders throughout August and September to provide an update on the project's status and next steps for the site investigations. We talked with stakeholders about the planned investigations and provided details about the typical vessels and equipment used for these studies.

These meetings also provided an opportunity to discuss and promote upcoming community information sessions or to recap what we heard from local communities through our engagement activities.

Meeting minutes and action items were captured to ensure concerns or questions could be followed up.

A number of meetings were held with key stakeholders including:

- Federal Member for Gippsland, the Hon. Darren Chester MP
- Victorian Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP
- Member for Gippsland South, Mr Danny O'Brien MP
- Office of the Victorian Minister for Planning, the Hon. Richard Wynne
- Victorian National Parks Association
- Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- Maritime Safety Victoria
- Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation
- Birdlife Australia
- Transport Safety Victoria
- CarbonNet
- Friends of the Earth
- Boating Industry of Victoria
- Gippsland Ports
- South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association
- Regional Development Victoria
- Broadening Horizons Gippsland
- Latrobe Valley Authority
- South Gippsland Shire officers and administrators.

Meetings were offered to several other stakeholder organisations and a detailed account of stakeholder interactions is provided in Appendix B.

## Online engagement platform

The Star of the South's online community engagement platform, Get Involved, experienced a high number of visits during the community engagement period in September. View the Get Involved community engagement platform at [starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved](http://starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved).

This platform provided an accessible one-stop-shop for project information, details of community information sessions, and a range of options for people to ask a question or provide feedback, including:

- an online survey to provide feedback about the project and upcoming site investigations
- an 'ask a question' tool allowing visitors to post a question to a notice board where the project team responded publicly. There was also an option for sending a direct enquiry to the team.

Here's a snapshot of Get Involved activity during September:



**853 visitors**  
across all pages



**10 online surveys**  
completed



**Over 280 visitors**  
downloaded or viewed  
documents, maps and  
fact sheets



**10 questions**  
posted and  
responded to



# What we heard

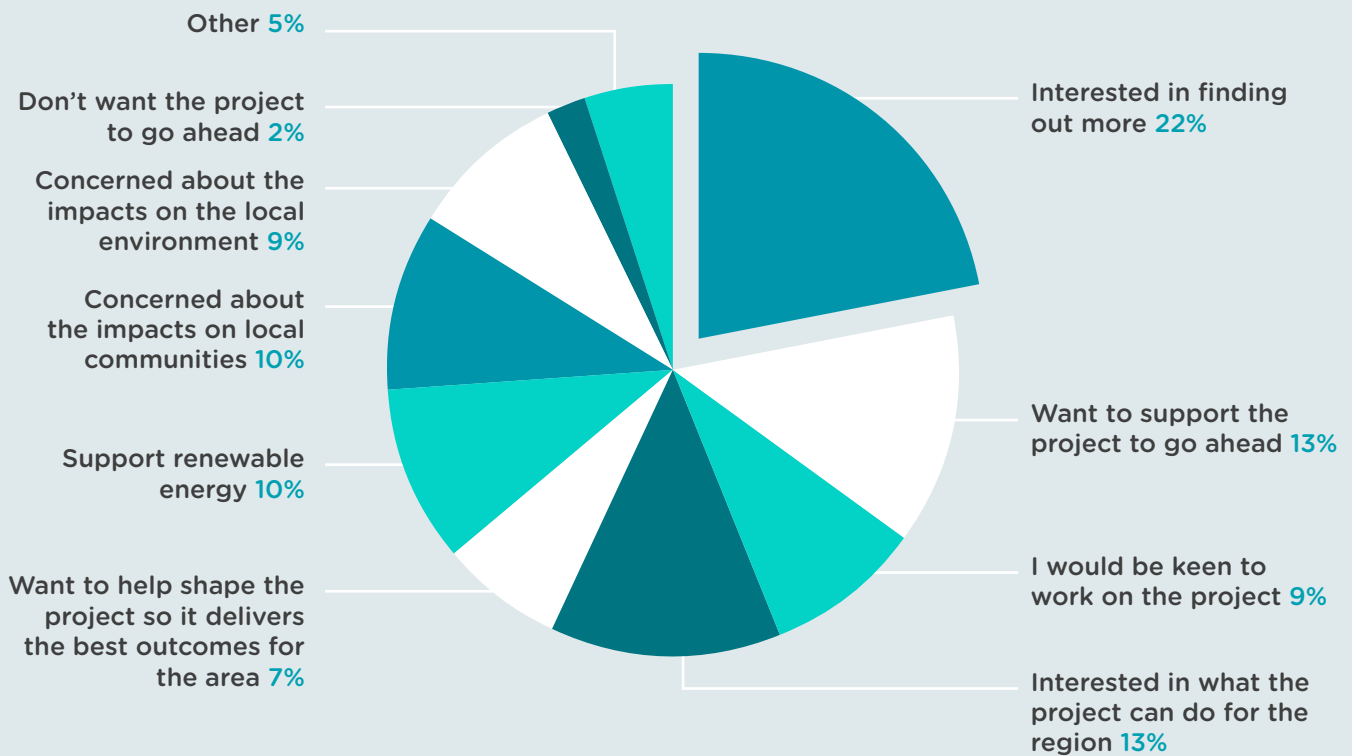
Community members provided formal feedback through a hard copy survey at community information sessions and online at the Get Involved engagement platform. We received a total of 28 surveys - 18 from information sessions and 10 online.

The number of formal written responses provided is relatively low when compared to the total number of people we consulted with, therefore the formal feedback we received provided a snapshot of the overall discussions and sentiment towards the project and site investigations.

Generally, people attending the community information sessions were keen to find out more or meet the team rather than provide formal feedback, potentially indicating they are comfortable with the project and site investigations at this stage. Those who had strong views about the project typically contributed written feedback.

We asked participants a number of questions relating to their reasons for getting involved in the consultation process and how satisfied they were with the information available at this stage of the project. Around one quarter of respondents indicated they got involved to find out more about the project.

## What motivated you to get involved in this consultation?

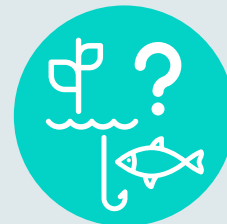


We also asked questions to understand how people felt about the upcoming site investigations and if they perceived any issues or had concerns. We took the opportunity to find out what people value about the local area and what they think is important for the team to consider as we progress the project.

Here's a snapshot of key topics of interest and sentiment captured through surveys:



**63%** of respondents **didn't have suggestions, feedback or concerns** about site investigations



Of the **37%** of respondents who indicated they had suggestions or concerns regarding site investigations, **40% were concerned about environmental impacts**, whilst **20% were concerned about impacts to fishing**



**45%** of respondents felt **Gippsland's natural beauty** makes the area unique



**65%** of respondents are most excited about **opportunities for local jobs and industry**, as well as **clean and reliable energy** once the project is in operation



Over **40%** of respondents see **local job opportunities and protecting environmental assets** as the most important considerations in project planning



**83%** of respondents were **satisfied or very satisfied** with the **information and materials available** at this stage



Over **90%** of respondents were **satisfied** or very satisfied with the **opportunities to have their say**

## Community feedback and key themes

Survey responses provided valuable insights into the community's hopes and concerns for the project.

We consistently heard that creating new opportunities for industry and the provision of local jobs are high priorities for people in the region, with many noting this should be achieved across the project lifespan, including site investigations.

We also heard that the region's environmental assets, such as its coastline, underwater habitat and various flora and fauna are highly valued by locals. Some concerns were raised about the potential environmental impact of the site investigations including from the geotechnical surveys, as well as impacts on the marine ecosystem and migrating birds.

Fishing was another top theme discussed during this consultation, with recreational and commercial fishers noting they were interested to know how the project would manage potential exclusion zones during construction and operation.

Lastly, it was evident that a number of people who provided feedback were eager to see the project succeed and lead the way for other projects of its kind in Australia. We received an overwhelming amount of support from locals who are excited at the opportunities the project could bring, as well as suggestions on how to continue engaging with the community as we progress planning to ensure any impacts are appropriately managed.



### Local jobs and industry are the top priority

We heard from respondents that the project's potential benefits for direct local employment and economic benefits for local supply chains is very important. The community hopes to see locally-based jobs with local industry and services making up a supply chain.

*“Offset lost job opportunities as Gippsland closes coal power generation”*

- Online survey

This feedback included suggestions for the site investigations phase which respondents feel could be supported by procuring local vessels to undertake this work where possible.

*“Local jobs during all stages going forward. Be it repurposed fishing vessels for patrol work during surveys or local trades for maintenance.”*

- Port Franklin community information session attendee

In addition, respondents hope the project could build local skills through training programs across the offshore wind supply chain. Currently, respondents are concerned that the decline in local industry is leading to limited opportunities for young people in the Gippsland region.

*“[Give] our young people hope and opportunity”*

- Online survey



### Protecting the region’s environmental assets

A common theme across the consultation was the value of the region’s environmental beauty and coastline. Responses indicate that the region’s beauty is a major drawcard for tourism and provides lifestyle benefits for the local community.

*“The diverse and pristine environmental setting so close to major city infrastructure”*

- Online survey

Those who did have concerns about the project and site investigations highlighted that protecting the environment throughout the project planning and development process would be critical. In particular, ensuring that marine ecosystems and migratory birds are safeguarded during site investigations. Some feedback about the construction and operation of the wind farm was also received, including the potential distance of the turbines from the shore and visibility.

*“Disturbing the natural environment, though as long as the research is thorough and transparent, hopefully there will be no threat to the environment”*

- Community information session attendee



### Ensuring recreational and commercial fishing is appropriately protected

Some respondents indicated that recreational fishing is important to the local community as a popular pastime and tourism drawcard for the area. Most comments regarding fishing were focused on potential exclusion zones for fishers and highlighted the need to work closely with these groups. Whilst commercial fishing did not feature heavily in written feedback, it was noted that working with this industry as the project progresses would be important.

*“Impacts on local area, exclusion zones around the project area and subsea cables.”*

- Community information session attendee

Some respondents noted that the project may have a number of benefits for local fish populations through the creation of artificial reefs on the turbine structures. Some respondents felt this new habitat for fish populations would have additional benefits for fishers, particularly for recreational fishing.

*“Underwater habitat - potential for artificial reef.”*

- Port Franklin community information session attendee



### Managing community impacts

Whilst the project is still at a very early stage of development, we heard from respondents that it is important to ensure local changes and impacts during the project's lifespan are effectively communicated. People want to be made aware of project activities and developments and how they might impact on the local area before they happen. Providing opportunities for the community to get involved and have their say on how these changes could be effectively managed to reduce impacts would be crucial for delivering the best possible outcomes.

*“Ensure public is always made aware of opportunities to be involved”*

- Community information session

*“[Gain community feedback on potential] impacts on local stakeholders, holiday / recreational areas”*

- Community information session



### Setting the project up for success

Respondents indicated that they are excited about the project's bold vision and there is a hope that the Star of the South's success would pave the way for future projects.

*“Run a successful project that may promote further Australian projects”*

- Community information session attendee



Several respondents believe that the project would provide clean, reliable power that benefits the environment. This level of support was reflected when respondents were asked to indicate what they believed to be the biggest issue the project faces. We heard concerns that potential community opposition could impact the project's success.

*“Potential community concerns with change. It is a very conservative community with a lesser understanding of the need for renewable energy”*


- Community information session attendee

## Our response to key issues raised

Issue	Our response
<p><b>Local jobs and industry are a top priority</b></p> 	<p>We will continue to work with local people, businesses and the education and training sectors to discuss opportunities, identify local skills and capabilities and understand any barriers to employment or contracting. This will include working with the local supply chain early to develop needs, accreditation and requirements.</p> <p>Businesses are able to register their interest in the project via our website, and we have responded to these enquiries with a promise to keep in touch as our investigations continue.</p>
<p><b>Protecting the region's environmental assets</b></p> 	<p>There are laws in Australia that strictly govern the type of investigations we are planning, and we are complying with requirements and controls, to minimise the potential for any impacts.</p> <p>We have environmental specialists on board who are conducting full assessments of any potential impacts as a result of our activities. These assessments have found the potential impacts to be low. We are sharing the details of our assessments with government regulators to ensure a thorough independent review and we will comply with any further directions or obligations as part of this process.</p> <p>Our contractors are also required to prepare environmental plans to ensure the investigations are carried out responsibly.</p> <p><b>Referral under the <i>Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC)</i></b></p> <p>We have referred our geophysical and geotechnical investigations under the Commonwealth Government's EPBC so that our assessment and proposed mitigations are very transparent, independently assessed and include a formal public comment period. Visit <a href="http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc">www.environment.gov.au/epbc</a> for more information on this process.</p> <p><b>Referral under the <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i></b></p> <p>We have referred our geophysical and geotechnical investigations under the Victorian Government's <i>Marine and Coastal Act</i>. Our assessment and proposed mitigations are transparent and independently assessed and include measures such as marine mammal observers onboard the vessel while we undertake our activities. Visit <a href="http://www.marineandcoasts.vic.gov.au/marine-and-coastal-act">www.marineandcoasts.vic.gov.au/marine-and-coastal-act</a> for more information on this.</p> <p><b>RAMSAR sites</b></p> <p>Survey operations will not be carried out within the nearby RAMSAR sites as they will be limited to water depths greater than five metres due to the draft of the vessel. The RAMSAR sites extends to water depths of 3.5 to 4.5 metres.</p> <p><i>continued...</i></p>

Issue	Our response
<p><b>Protecting the region’s environmental assets</b> <i>continued...</i></p>	<p><b>Visibility</b></p> <p>The closest boundary of the exploration licence from the coast is around 10 kilometres. So while we are still confirming the feasibility of the project, should it proceed to construction and operation, we know the boundaries it may be in and that offshore wind farms are typically seen from land.</p> <p>We will be doing studies into what people could expect to see from the coast and we will develop some visuals and artist impressions of the wind farm as part of those studies to share with people.</p> <p>We do not expect the site investigations to have a visual impact on the coast line.</p>
<p><b>Ensuring recreational and commercial fishing is appropriately protected</b></p> 	<p>We have consulted with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, marine shipping, marine tourism and fishing (recreational, commercial and Indigenous) communities regarding our planned investigations to ensure equipment is placed in a safe and navigable location.</p> <p>The planned locations of fixed equipment such as acoustic equipment and floating LiDARs will also be made known to all marine users through the Notice to Mariners (issued via the Australian Hydrographic Office), Transport Safety Victoria and other relevant organisations.</p> <p>Additionally, information on the locations of sea-based equipment was provided during the September consultation period to recreational and commercial fishers, as well as to other key marine stakeholders. This information was provided via a factsheet and also included instructions on what to do in the event of entanglement, damage or an emergency.</p> <p>We will ensure equipment such as floating LiDAR devices are appropriately lit and uniquely identified when launched offshore.</p> <p>While we don’t expect any major impacts during our activities, we will advise fishers and other marine users to keep a sensible and safe distance from our equipment and operations. We have set up a dedicated phone number so fishers can continue to contact us with any concerns on 1800 340 340, should any impacts arise.</p> <p>We acknowledge the legislated rights of commercial fishers and we also recognise that recreational fishing is hugely important to locals and visitors to Gippsland. We are open and committed to working with fishers on the potential benefits that could be created by an offshore wind farm as well as understanding how we can best co-exist and collaborate into the future.</p>
<p><b>Managing community impacts</b></p> 	<p>We recognise that the Star of the South project will mean some physical changes to the local environment if it proceeds to construction and operation. We are currently in the feasibility phase, with site investigations to confirm how the project could be designed.</p> <p>We will share information about our planning and design work and will investigate (together with local people) opportunities to minimise potential community impacts as a result of the project, should it proceed to construction and operation.</p> <p>We encourage anyone with concerns at this early stage to contact us on 1800 340 340 or email us at <a href="mailto:info@starofthesouth.com.au">info@starofthesouth.com.au</a>.</p>



Issue	Our response
<p><b>Setting the project up for success</b></p> 	<p>We are currently in the feasibility phase but we are excited about the potential to build Australia’s first offshore wind project. We encourage people to keep in touch with us and follow our updates through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1800 340 340 community line</li> <li>• Project website at <a href="http://starofthesouth.com.au">starofthesouth.com.au</a></li> <li>• Social media pages on Facebook and LinkedIn</li> <li>• Dedicated community engagement website: ‘Get Involved’ at <a href="http://starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved">starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved</a></li> <li>• General enquiries email address at <a href="mailto:info@starofthesouth.com.au">info@starofthesouth.com.au</a></li> <li>• Contact form on our website at <a href="http://starofthesouth.com.au/contact">starofthesouth.com.au/contact</a></li> <li>• E-updates</li> <li>• Project newsletters.</li> </ul> <p>We will keep people updated on site investigations and the project through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Meetings and briefings</b> with people regularly with the principle of meeting in the most convenient time and location for our stakeholders.</li> <li>• <b>Providing letters</b> to stakeholders, residents and businesses who could be affected by our investigations.</li> <li>• Providing detailed <b>fact sheets and brochures</b> on important project information, sometimes tailored to particular stakeholder groups.</li> <li>• Displaying <b>on-site signage</b> (where appropriate) to advise communities of field work and investigations, with relevant permissions sought from Council or other authorities.</li> <li>• <b>Local print and digital advertising</b> to inform people of consultation opportunities.</li> <li>• Investigating a local <b>‘drop-in space’</b> where local community members and stakeholders can visit to meet the project team, ask questions and view maps and plans.</li> <li>• Making ourselves available for <b>presentations</b> at local schools, community groups and other interest group meetings.</li> <li>• Partnering with and having a presence at <b>local community events and festivals</b> so that people can meet the team, learn more about the project and find out information about the project and site investigations.</li> <li>• <b>Consulting with landowners</b> at an early stage to provide clear and concise information when needing to access property for site investigations. We will take their views on board and act respectfully when interacting with them.</li> <li>• Establishing a <b>Community Reference Group (or groups)</b> to help facilitate two-way communication between interested parties and the project team.</li> </ul>





## Next steps

**We have incorporated the feedback we received as part of our consultation on the site investigations into how we will deliver these activities.**

As part of the approvals for the site investigations, we have developed mitigation measures to reduce the impact.

We will continue to engage with the community and stakeholders through the project's channels.

We will keep people informed about further opportunities to get involved as we continue progressing bringing offshore wind to Australia.

# Appendix A : examples of consultation promotion

The Star of the South consultation and community information sessions were promoted through a number of channels. Examples of advertisements, social media posts, the project newsletter and media coverage are below.

## Newspaper advertisements

### Get involved in Australia's first offshore wind project

**The Star of the South is Australia's first proposed offshore wind project, located off the south coast of Gippsland. It has the potential to power hundreds of thousands of homes, while creating thousands of jobs.**

We're preparing to undertake site investigations from late 2019 and would love to hear from you.  
We're holding community information sessions across Gippsland in September. Drop in at any stage or come to hear a brief presentation at the start of each session at the times and locations outlined below.

<p><b>Morwell</b> Thursday 12 September 2019 5.30pm to 7.30pm Italian/Australian Club, Main Auditorium, 499-501 Princes Drive, Morwell</p>	<p><b>Yarram</b> Monday 16 September 2019 5.30pm to 7.30pm Yarram Secondary College, 86 James St, Yarram</p>	<p><b>Leongatha</b> Saturday 21 September 2019 10.00am to 12.00pm Leongatha Memorial Hall, Room 1, 6-8 McCartin Street, Leongatha</p>
<p><b>Lakes Entrance</b> Friday 13 September 2019 5.00pm to 6.30pm The Central Hotel (Pub), 321 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance</p>	<p><b>Woodside</b> Tuesday 17 September 2019 5.30pm to 7.30pm Woodside Community Hall, Cnr Prince Street and Austins Road, Woodside</p>	<p><b>Port Franklin</b> Saturday 21 September 2019 2.00pm to 4.00pm Port Franklin Community Hall Tramway Street, Port Franklin</p>

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We look forward to meeting you at our sessions. **Can't make it?** Feel free to contact us with any questions or input at [starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved](http://starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved), [info@starofthesouth.com.au](mailto:info@starofthesouth.com.au) or 9108 4000.

StaroftheSouth
starofthesouth.com.au

## Social media posts

**Star of the South Project**

Published by Caitlyn Hammond [?] · 5 September at 16:55 · 🌐

⋮

Have you heard about the proposed offshore wind farm that could power hundreds of thousands of Victorian homes and create thousands of jobs? 🌊 ⚡ 🏠 🛠️

Find out more and share your thoughts at our September info sessions across Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley. Details -> <https://bit.ly/2IAx06r>

**Star of the South Project**

Published by Sophie Fitzpatrick [?] · 16 September at 11:04 · 🌐

⋮

Thanks to everyone who came to our information sessions in Morwell and Lakes Entrance last week. It was great to meet you and hear your feedback. We'll be at Yarram Secondary College tonight from 5.30pm, Woodside Community Hall tomorrow from 5.30pm, Leongatha Memorial Hall on Saturday from 10am and Port Franklin Community Hall on Saturday from 2pm. Come along and have a chat to the team. If you can't make a session, you can also get more details about the project and provide feedback online at [starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved](http://starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved).

Project newsletter



Star of the South  
Newsletter 1 | August 2019



**We're social!**

Got Facebook and keen to stay across our latest updates? Follow us and like our Facebook page at **Star of the South** to hear our news and chat to us online.

**Introducing Australia's first proposed offshore wind farm**

Site investigations are starting on Australia's first offshore wind farm - the Star of the South - and we invite you to get involved.

The Star of the South has the potential to power hundreds of thousands of Victorian homes, meeting a substantial part of the State's electricity needs. If the project proceeds to construction and operation, it could create thousands of jobs and significant investment in Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley.

It's still early days, but we're keen to hear from you. We invite you to come and learn more about the Star of the South and share your views at our upcoming community consultation sessions.

See the back page of this newsletter for details of our sessions or go to [starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved](http://starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved) to connect with us online.

**Upcoming sessions**

- September 2019**  
Community consultation sessions:
- Morwell
  - Lakes Entrance
  - Yarram
  - Woodside
  - Leongatha
  - Port Franklin



StaroftheSouth

[starofthesouth.com.au](http://starofthesouth.com.au)

**Measuring the wind**

One of the most important investigations in developing offshore wind projects is collecting data about wind speed and directions.

Our floating LIDARs will be placed out at sea to collect important data about wind conditions, over a period of up to two years. We will also deploy a wave buoy to collect wave data. We will consult with fishers and marine users to ensure the floating LIDARs and buoys are placed in a safe location within our licensed area.



**Investigating the seabed**

Geophysical survey soundwave equipment is used to investigate the seabed and local site conditions up to 80 metres below the seabed.

The equipment lets out a ping as it travels down through the water until it hits sediment, gathering information about underwater topography and collecting information to understand what's happening under the seabed. This is done by taking shallow core samples of the seabed sediment and studying it to understand its composition and strength to establish geological conditions. The investigations are performed using a medium sized vessel.

We will talk with fishers and marine users on the timing and location of these activities, which will occur over two stages.



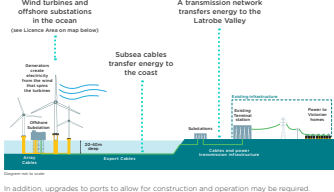
**Understanding the environment**

Surveys are undertaken to investigate fish, whales and seals and migrating birds.

We're planning to undertake sound monitoring to help collect important data about the pattern of sound in the area. These studies are taking place in the licensed area.

**What's involved?**

The Star of the South project involves:



In addition, upgrades to ports to allow for construction and operation may be required.

**Map of our Licence Area**



We're excited to be talking about offshore wind in Australia, which is globally recognised as a large-scale contributor to the energy mix in countries like the UK, Denmark, Germany and France. Offshore wind is also taking off in the US and across Asia. It's a proven and clean technology and a strong driver for economic development, creating jobs during construction and operation.

**Understanding local conditions**

Currently we are investigating the project, with site studies into the local wind, seabed and environment to help confirm if the project can go ahead.

Based on our observations to date, the south coast of Gippsland ticks a number of boxes for offshore wind due to strong and consistent winds, relatively low water depths, access to ports and plenty of capacity in the existing electrical transmission network.

Our detailed studies and site investigations are planned to start from late 2019 and include:

- Measuring wind and wave conditions
- Studies to understand more about the seabed conditions
- Marine mammal, bird and other environmental studies
- Community and stakeholder consultation to understand local perspectives
- Transmission, grid and engineering studies
- Economic studies, including identifying opportunities for local industry

Throughout the site investigations, we will work closely with all levels of government and Traditional Owners on the potential to develop the Star of the South project into the future. For more information, see our investigations fact sheet online at [starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved](http://starofthesouth.com.au/getinvolved).

## Media coverage

**Star of the South** | Community

News Sport Opinion **Community** Special Publications All

Home / Community

SEPTEMBER 2 2019 - 2:00PM

### Local offshore wind farm sessions are planned

Community

SHARE TWEET COMMENTS

**LOCAL NEWS**

- 1 Hay convoy rolls i
- 2 Food, wine and m
- 3 Witnesses sought year-old
- 4 Police seek inform burglaries
- 5 Packed schedule f
- 6 Five days to cup d

**Express** | News

News Sport Opinion Commu

Home / News

SEPTEMBER 16 2019 - 12:53PM

### Off shore wind project

Michelle Slater News

SHARE TWEET COMMENTS

More than 100 people turned up to hear the latest development in what could be Australia's first off shore wind farm at a community session in Morwell on Thursday night.

# Appendix B : stakeholder interactions

## Category 1: Commonwealth Government

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO)</b>	Email	30/08/19	<p>Email sent out to introduce and provide overview of project. Upcoming community consultation was mentioned and request for a meeting was presented.</p> <p>Stakeholder response on 02/09/19 thanked SOTS for the opportunity to meet but did not feel it was necessary at this time.</p> <p>No issues raised.</p>	<p>No follow up required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
<b>Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA)</b>	Meeting (with various Commonwealth fishing representatives)	20/06/19	<p>SOTS provided an overview of project and site investigations to stakeholders.</p> <p>Stakeholders raised multiple points including the need to consult with fishers, noting potential fishing activities around the proposed windfarm. Stakeholders also commented on the opportunity to collaborate with researchers and encouraged SOTS to consider positive initiatives to benefit other marine users.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS noted issues raised and advised they would be formally consulting closer to deployment of equipment. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Email	30/08/19	<p>SOTS contacted stakeholder to provide overview of upcoming community consultation and site investigations including a request for meeting to provide further detail.</p> <p>Stakeholder responded on 30/08/19 and raised no new issues, although noted ongoing interest in meeting and receiving updates on the project.</p>	<p>SOTS to arrange follow up meeting to report back on recent consultation outcomes. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)</b>	Meeting	25/07/19	<p>SOTS met with AMSA Canberra to provide an overview of the project and exploration licence area. Stakeholder provided a copy of the vessel traffic plot and identification system. Discussion about potential locations of LiDAR equipment.</p> <p>Stakeholder expressed desire to be engaged with during design of the wind farm and the planning for construction and operation.</p> <p>SOTS confirmed intention to meet regularly through the process.</p>	<p>No follow up required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely updates.</p>
	Email	30/08/19	<p>Email sent out to provide an update on site investigations and consultation opportunities. A request for a meeting was presented.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Meeting	09/10/19	<p>SOTS provided a short presentation on the background of the project, an overview of site investigations and other marine surveys.</p> <p>Stakeholder provided details on process for issuing a Notice to Mariners but raised no further issues.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
<b>National Wind Farm Commissioner</b>	Email	20/09/19	<p>SOTS requested a meeting to update stakeholder on site investigations and the project more broadly.</p> <p>Stakeholder responded with a suitable date to meet in November. No new issues raised.</p>	<p>Meeting arranged for mid-November.</p>

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Department of Agriculture and Water Resources</b>	Meeting	20/06/19	<p>SOTS provided an overview of project and site investigations to stakeholders.</p> <p>Stakeholders raised multiple points including the need to consult with fishers, noting potential fishing activities around the proposed windfarm. Stakeholders also commented on the opportunity to collaborate with researchers and encouraged SOTS to consider positive initiatives to benefit other marine users.</p>	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
<b>Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE)</b>	Meetings	Various	SOTS meets regularly with representatives from the DoEE to report on progress and upcoming activities.	SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates in line with obligations under the project's exploration licence.
<b>Parliament of Australia (Member for Gippsland)</b>	Email	23/06/19	<p>SOTS requested a meeting with stakeholder. SOTS also gave a brief project update.</p> <p>Response advised stakeholder was unable to meet but would like a written project update.</p>	SOTS to provide stakeholder with a project update via email.
	Email	Various	SOTS provided a project update. Email exchanges with stakeholder to arrange a meeting on 26/08/19.	SOTS to confirm meeting.
	Meeting	26/08/19	<p>SOTS provided a project update and alerted stakeholder to upcoming community consultation sessions and site investigations.</p> <p>Stakeholder provided feedback on the project and advised SOTS on expectations related to community consultation.</p>	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Parliament of Australia (Member for Monash)</b>	Meeting	22/03/17	<p>SOTS met with stakeholder and Committee for Gippsland to provide an overview of the project, including permitting and consultative processes.</p> <p>SOTS committed to providing stakeholder with email updates and face-to-face meetings as required.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Email	30/08/19	<p>SOTS provided a project update and alerted stakeholder to upcoming community consultation sessions and site investigations.</p> <p>Office of the stakeholder advised they would be in touch if they wanted to meet.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
<b>Fisheries Research and Development Corporation</b>	Meeting	20/06/19	<p>SOTS provided an overview of project and site investigations to stakeholders.</p> <p>Stakeholders raised multiple points including the need to consult with fishers, noting fishing activities around potential windfarm. Stakeholders also commented on the opportunity to collaborate with researchers and encouraged SOTS to consider positive initiatives to benefit other marine users.</p>	<p>SOTS to explore opportunities to collaborate with stakeholder.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Email	30/08/19	<p>SOTS provided overview and project update, as well community consultation alert and meeting request.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Meeting	11/10/19	<p>SOTS spoke to the Managing Director at the Seafood Directions conference about where the project is at and discussed the opportunity to explore benefits from an aquaculture and fisheries perspective.</p> <p>SOTS agreed to keep in touch with the stakeholder on opportunities.</p> <p>No issues raised.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>



## Category 2: Victorian Government

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA)</b>	Meeting	16/05/19	SOTS provided an overview of the project.  Stakeholder offered assistance and a further meeting with senior staff and managers.	SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	30/08/19	Email sent out regarding upcoming community consultation and a request for a meeting was presented.  Response on 30/08/19 indicated a favourable response towards a meeting.	SOTS to follow up meeting request.
	Meeting	01/10/19	Stakeholder keen to explore opportunities SOTS can bring to the commercial fisheries industry. Options to explore data sharing and potential for artificial reefs.	SOTS and stakeholder to explore research opportunities.
	Meeting	11/10/19	SOTS spoke to stakeholder at the Seafood Directions conference and agreed to arrange a meeting.  No response to date.	SOTS to follow up on request to meet.
<b>Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)</b>	Meeting	21/08/19	SOTS provided a high-level summary of the SOTS project and status plans.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS is engaged in regular meetings with DELWP to provide updates on the project and development activities.
	Meeting	16/09/19	SOTS met with DELWP team member to provide project update.  Stakeholder raised no new issues.	N/A
	Email	20/09/19	SOTS requested a meeting with stakeholder. Email gave brief overview of new phases for the project, including exploration licence.  Stakeholder called SOTS to arrange a time to meet. A further email was sent out on 20/09/19 that provided three more possible meeting times.	N/A

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)</b> <i>continued</i>	Meeting	10/10/19	<p>SOTS met with DELWP planning team to provide a project update and proposed approvals plan.</p> <p>Stakeholder raised no issues.</p>	N/A
	Email	15/10/19	<p>SOTS notified stakeholder that it had submitted an application for Marine Geophysical and Geotechnical Surveys under the Victorian Marine and Coastal Act.</p> <p>Stakeholder responded acknowledging receipt of the application and that it would be registered for assessment.</p>	N/A
<b>Parliament of Victoria, Member for Gippsland South and Member for Eastern Victoria</b>	Meeting	28/08/19	<p>SOTS met with stakeholders to provide a project update, overview of site investigations and details of community consultation sessions. SOTS also provided hardcopy versions of the communications materials.</p> <p>No issues raised.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Email	29/08/19	<p>SOTS issued a media release and community newsletter via email in addition to a project update. SOTS also advised on upcoming community consultation sessions.</p> <p>No issues raised.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
<b>Parliament of Victoria (Office of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change)</b>	Meeting	21/08/19	<p>SOTS gave a project update that included the consultation process.</p> <p>No new issues raised.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Email	08/09/19	<p>SOTS issued community newsletter via email.</p> <p>No new issues raised.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage.</p> <p>SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Regional Development Victoria (RDV)</b>	Email	04/02/19	SOTS issued latest update on project and fact sheets via email. No new issues raised.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	03/09/19	Stakeholder reached out for a meeting with the SOTS team. SOTS team responded with potential dates to meet.	SOTS to arrange meeting with stakeholder.
	Meeting	16/09/19	SOTS provided an overview and update of the project, including site investigations and current phase of consultation. RDV provided an overview of recent initiatives and challenges in the region. RDV reiterated the desire for local jobs and investment in Gippsland region.	SOTS is committed to exploring opportunities for local jobs and investment as part of the project's development. No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	18/09/19	Stakeholder provided details of local facility SOTS could consider as a regional office base. SOTS provide an update on the broader project and offshore wind. SOTS also provided an overview of community feedback received to date.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
<b>Parliament of Victoria (Member for Morwell)</b>	Email	30/08/19	SOTS issued media release and community newsletter via email. SOTS also provided a brief project update, including site investigations and upcoming community consultation. Stakeholder responded and thanked for the update - no issues raised.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Office of Victorian Minister for Planning, the Hon. Richard Wynne</b>	Meeting	05/09/19	SOTS provided an overview and update of the project. SOTS also provided an overview of community consultation.  No issues raised at this point.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
<b>Maritime Safety Victoria</b>	Meeting	23/09/19	SOTS provided overview and update on project.  Stakeholders discussed their role as a regulator and recommended interfaces. No issues raised.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
<b>Environmental Protection Authority Victoria (EPA)</b>	Email	24/09/19	SOTS provided a project overview and update, as well as a meeting request.  No response to date.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Emails	Various	SOTS has regular interactions with the EPA. SOTS has offered to meet with the stakeholder and is arranging a suitable time.	SOTS to follow up meeting request.
<b>Parks Victoria</b>	Email	30/09/19	SOTS contacted stakeholder to provide an overview of the project and recent community consultation, including an offer to meet.  No response received.	SOTS to follow up.
	Phone call	25/10/19	Stakeholder called SOTS to discuss email received on 30/09/19 about the project.  Stakeholder raised potential issues with bird migratory paths and diving seabirds during operation. Stakeholder mentioned climate migratory species moving from the northern states to Victoria. Stakeholder requested information on consultants undertaking initial marine mammal investigations and bird surveys.  Stakeholder did not want to meet at this stage.	SOTS to provide stakeholder with details about consultants and to consider issues raised in project planning.

## Category 3: Local Government

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
East Gippsland Shire Council	Email	12/09/19	Stakeholder responded to meeting request. Stakeholder could not attend meeting but would attend upcoming community consultation meetings. SOTS provided contact details.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
Wellington Shire Council	Email	29/03/19	SOTS issued statement via email as well as a project update regarding exploration licence approval.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	16/05/19	SOTS and stakeholder arrange a time to brief council.	SOTS to confirm meeting.
	Council briefing	18/06/19	Stakeholder asked questions about the project including jobs, potential location for a local office and timing. SOTS provided a project update and answered the above questions.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	30/08/19	SOTS issued media release and community newsletter. SOTS also provided a brief project update, including site investigations and upcoming community consultation.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
South Gippsland Shire Council	Email	29/03/19	SOTS issued a media release regarding approval of exploration licence.  No issues raised.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Meeting	17/09/19	SOTS provided an overview and update of the project. SOTS also provided an overview of upcoming site investigations and community consultations.  Stakeholder raised queries about the broader project and offshore wind which SOTS answered. SOTS also provided an overview of community feedback received to date.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
Latrobe City Council	Email	29/03/19	SOTS provided a project update including approved exploration licence.  No issues raised.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	30/08/19	SOTS provided an update on site investigations starting later this year and notified stakeholder about community consultation in September.  SOTS offered to provide an overview of the consultation activities and further detail about the planned site investigations.  No issues raised.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	07/10/19	SOTS offered to brief Council - stakeholder looking at the request and dates.	SOTS to arrange meeting once dates are received.

## Category 4: Interest groups and representative organisations

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
Seafood Industry Victoria (SIV)	Email	02/04/19	SOTS provided a project update including on the project gaining an exploration licence.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Meeting	11/07/19	SOTS provided an update on project and outlined proposed activities to take place in near future.  Stakeholder raised multiple points including protecting the interests of fishers, particularly how they can fish in and around the windfarm.	Further meeting to be arranged as part of formal consultation.
	Email	30/08/19	SOTS provided project update including on upcoming community consultation and request for a meeting was presented.  No response received.	SOTS to follow up with stakeholder.
	Email	05/09/19	SOTS provided details about community consultation sessions and requested stakeholder share information with their members.  No response received.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Meeting	10/10/19	SOTS spoke to stakeholder at the Seafood Directions conference and provided an update on the project including that site investigations will start in late 2019.  SOTS requested meeting with stakeholder to further brief them on the upcoming activities and understand any potential concerns.  Stakeholder agreed to setting up a meeting.	SOTS to arrange meeting.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Seafood Industry Victoria (SIV)</b> <i>continued</i>	Email	24/10/10	SOTS sent stakeholder an email to summarise recent interactions at the Seafood Directions conference and requesting a meeting on 13 or 14 November or week commencing 18 November.	No response to date. SOTS to follow up on request to meet.
<b>VRFish - Victorian Recreational Fishing peak body</b>	Email	02/04/19	SOTS provided a project update including project gaining an exploration licence.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	30/08/19	Email sent out to provide overview of project. Upcoming community consultation was mentioned and request for a meeting was presented.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	02/09/19	SOTS sent further information (to the above) to stakeholder and update on SOTS contact. Stakeholder response raised no new issues.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	09/10/19	SOTS sent further information about recent community and fisheries consultation. SOTS requested meeting to share feedback and provide an update on the upcoming site investigations. Stakeholder and SOTS arranging time to meet.	SOTS to follow up meeting request.
	Email	26/10/19	SOTS sent stakeholder potential dates to meet in mid-November. No response to date	N/A



Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Lakes Entrance Fisherman's Cooperative Ltd</b>	Meeting	19/06/19	<p>SOTS provided an overview of the project, as well as information on site investigations.</p> <p>Stakeholder mentioned concern for potential loss of fishing grounds if the wind farm goes ahead. Stakeholder also mentioned opportunities for fishing vessels.</p>	<p>SOTS advised stakeholder of its commitment to work with fishers and looking for the best way to coexist and collaborate if the project proceeds to construction and operation.</p> <p>SOTS will keep in touch on updates as we progress the project.</p>
	Email	30/08/19	<p>Email sent out to provide overview of project. Upcoming community consultation was mentioned and request for a meeting was presented.</p> <p>No response received.</p>	SOTS to follow up on request to meet.
	Email	09/10/19	<p>SOTS contacted stakeholder to provide a summary of recent engagement with fishers in Lakes Entrance and to request a meeting with stakeholder. SOTS will be in Lakes Entrance in mid-November so can meet to provide an update on the consultation and provide more detail about the upcoming site investigations.</p>	SOTS to follow up on request to meet.
	Phone call	23/10/19	<p>SOTS called stakeholder to follow up on concerns and arrange a time to meet.</p> <p>No response to date.</p>	N/A
<b>Gippsland Ports</b>	Meeting	13/09/19	<p>SOTS provided an overview of project and site investigations. SOTS also asked what issues the region and Gippsland Ports is facing.</p> <p>Stakeholder provided information as to the issues faced by the region and Gippsland Ports.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC)	Email	31/03/19	SOTS issued press release via email. No response received.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Meeting	19/06/19	Stakeholder provided overview of GLaWAC and interest in project. SOTS introduced themselves and the project and noted interest to understand more about GLaWAC.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	06/09/19	SOTS provided a project update and requested a meeting time. Stakeholder responded with a date to meet.	SOTS to confirm meeting time.
	Email	11/09/19	SOTS arranged a time to meet GLaWAC.	Meeting arranged for 13/09/19.
	Meeting	13/09/19	SOTS met with stakeholder to provide overview of September community consultation and update on site investigations starting in late 2019. Stakeholder interested in job opportunities if the project moves to construction and operation. Stakeholder keen to be involved in engagement opportunities as the project progresses. Stakeholders were positive and supportive towards project.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
Environment Victoria	Email	10/09/19	SOTS issued latest newsletter via email, as well as brief project update in regard to awarded exploration licence. SOTS requested a meeting time. Response received acknowledging receipt of information and stakeholder will be in touch on a potential meeting.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
Birdlife Australia	Email	09/09/19	SOTS provided a project update and requested a meeting time.  Response from stakeholder raised no new issues	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Meeting	19/09/19	SOTS met with stakeholder to provide an overview of the project and also understand more about Birdlife Australia's development programs.  SOTS and stakeholder discussed potential methodology for bird surveys.  SOTS and stakeholder agreed to meeting again in November to discuss feedback on proposed methodology.	Meeting arranged for 14/11/19.
Latrobe Valley Authority (LVA)	Email	03/09/19	SOTS emailed stakeholder with project update and overview. SOTS also offered a meeting.	Meeting arranged for 17/09/19.
	Meeting	17/09/19	SOTS provided an update on the project, including site investigations and community consultation. SOTS also provided the LVA with a high-level introduction to its procurement workstream.  LVA described their strategic focus and the need to engage with local suppliers, workers and industry initiatives.	SOTS is committed to exploring opportunities for local jobs and investment as part of the project's development. SOTS to arrange workshop to further explore these opportunities and a forward program of actions.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Gippsland Climate Change Network</b>	Presentation	27/03/19	SOTS presented to a group of 80 renewable energy enthusiasts following an invitation from Gippsland Climate Change Network and Latrobe Valley Community Power Hub. SOTS provided overview of project.  Stakeholders were positive and supportive towards project.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	29/03/19	SOTS advised stakeholder of exploration licence approval.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
<b>Victorian National Parks Association</b>	Email	11/09/19	Stakeholder emailed SOTS to request a project update via a meeting.	Meeting arranged for 24/09/19.
	Meeting	24/09/19	Stakeholder introduced their organisation and in principle support for the project. Raised that their main area of interest is methodologies and scoping, as well as managing potential environmental and wildlife impacts.  SOTS gave an overview and update of the project.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	24/09/19	SOTS issued newsletter and factsheet links via email and thanked stakeholder for the last meeting.  Stakeholder response raised no new issues.	N/A

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation	Email	30/08/19	SOTS provided overview and project update, as well community consultation alert and meeting request.  No response to date.	SOTS to follow up with further contact.
	Email	09/10/19	SOTS contacted stakeholder to provide a summary of the recent community consultation including with recreational fishers. SOTS offered a meeting or phone call to share the feedback received.  No response to date.	N/A
Port Franklin Fisherman's Association	Email	30/08/19	SOTS provided overview and project update, as well community consultation alert and meeting request.  No response to date.	SOTS to follow up with further contact.
	Email	29/10/19	SOTS sent stakeholder a summary of the recent community consultation and offered a meeting to share some of the feedback from recreational fishers.  No response to date.	N/A
Boating Industry of Victoria	Email	30/08/19	SOTS provided overview and project update, as well community consultation alert and meeting request.  Stakeholder response requested a meeting.	SOTS arranged a meeting for 24/9/19.
	Meeting	24/09/19	SOTS provided an overview of the project and a project update.  Points raised include queries around potential exclusion zones, offshore wind more broadly and possible sponsorship of BIA boat show. Could see benefits for boating as long as there were no exclusions. Stakeholder did not raise any issues about site investigations.	SOTS to consider request for sponsorship. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Game Fishers Association of Victoria</b>	Email	02/04/19	SOTS provided a project update including approved exploration licence.  No response to date.	SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely updates.
	Email	30/08/19	Email sent out to provide overview of project. Upcoming community consultation was mentioned and request for a meeting was presented.	SOTS to follow up with further contact.
	Email	31/10/19	SOTS contacted stakeholder to provide a summary of the recent community consultation including with recreational fishers. SOTS offered a meeting or phone call to share the feedback received.  No response to date.	N/A
<b>South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association (SETFIA)</b>	Email	30/08/19	SOTS provided project update and upcoming consultation alert. SOTS also requested a meeting.	Meeting arranged for 13/9/19.
	Email	04/09/19	Stakeholder alerted SOTS that not many fishers know of the project.  SOTS acknowledged stakeholder remark and agreed to find a new solution to contacting fishers.	Additional communications used to contact fishers. Two times SMS messaging service sent to 99 fishers on DETFIA contact list.
	Email	12/09/19	SOTS agreed with stakeholder to deploy further messages to fishers directly via SMS. 99 fishers were contacted via this SMS of project update and upcoming consultation.	N/A
	Meeting	13/09/19	SOTS provided a project and site investigations update. SOTS advised stakeholder they were keen to co-exist and agreed to future steps.  Stakeholder agreed with points.  No new issues raised.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Sustainable Shark Fishing Association</b>	Community information session	13/09/19	Stakeholder attended Lakes Entrance community information session and requested more information about potential impacts from site investigations on great white sharks.  SOTS to send stakeholder further details by email.	SOTS to contact stakeholder with details.
	Email	26/09/19	SOTS contacted stakeholder after community consultation session with more information on the potential impact SOTS could have on great white sharks, as requested by the stakeholder.  SOTS explained plan for marine ecology studies to establish a baseline for great white sharks and how the project is working with CSIRO on tagging program.  SOTS asked stakeholder if they had further questions and expressed desire to stay in contact as more information becomes available through the marine mammal studies.  No response to date.	SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates, including relevant information about great white sharks and how the project might mitigate any impacts based on the results of the site investigations.
<b>Commonwealth Fisheries Association</b>	Phone call	05/07/19	Stakeholder raised some concerns about the project creating potential fishing exclusion zones and loss of fishing grounds.  Stakeholder generally comfortable with seabed studies as these are believed to be low impact. Stakeholder concerned about construction and operation of wind farm should it proceed to these phases.  SOTS acknowledged stakeholder's concerns and advised that the project was keen to work with fishers. SOTS advised the project would be formally consulting closer to deployment of equipment and would notify stakeholder in advance.	SOTS to contact stakeholder ahead of community consultation and to let them know how they can get involved.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
<b>Commonwealth Fisheries Association</b> <i>continued</i>	Email	30/08/19	<p>SOTS provided project update and upcoming consultation alert. SOTS also requested a meeting.</p> <p>No response to date.</p>	<p>No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.</p>
	Meeting	10/10/19	<p>SOTS spoke to stakeholder at the Seafood Directions conference and provided an overview of upcoming site investigations.</p> <p>Stakeholder raised concerns about potential exclusion zones during site investigations, construction and operation.</p> <p>SOTS explained that the project is keen to work with fishers on how fishing and the project could co-exist.</p> <p>SOTS and stakeholder agreed to follow up meeting.</p>	<p>SOTS to follow up meeting.</p>
	Email	24/10/19	<p>SOTS contacted stakeholder to arrange meeting suggesting week commencing 18 November.</p> <p>No response to date.</p>	<p>N/A</p>



## Category 5: Other key stakeholders

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
Greening Australia	Email	23/05/19	Greening Australia reached out to SOTS to understand the project and if SOTS would be interested in investing in the local community.  SOTS agreed to speak to stakeholder to discuss further when in town for community consultation.	SOTS to notify stakeholder of consultation details and provide opportunity to meet.
	Email	02/09/19	SOTS emailed Greening Australia to inform them of upcoming community sessions.  No response from stakeholder.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
Recfishing Research	Phone call	18/07/19	SOTS received a general interest phone call from stakeholder. SOTS provided project overview and update.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
Broadening Horizons Gippsland	Meeting	16/09/19	Stakeholder gave overview of organisation and the way it aims to bring industry and schools together.  SOTS acknowledged the organisation's mission and said they would be pleased to be involved with the program in Term 4.	No follow up is required at this stage.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Presentation	16/10/19	SOTS presented to year 8 students at Yarram Secondary College as part of the Broadening Horizons program.  SOTS will continue to be involved fortnightly until the program ends in late November.	SOTS to visit Yarram Secondary College fortnightly to participate in Broadening Horizons program.

Stakeholder	Type of consultation activity	Date	Issues raised	SOTS assessment and next steps
Victorian Lobster Association	Email	30/08/19	Email sent out to introduce and provide overview of project. Upcoming community consultation was mentioned and request for a meeting was presented.	No follow up is required at this stage. SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.
	Email	29/10/19	SOTS sent stakeholder a summary of the recent community consultation and offered a meeting to share some of the feedback from recreational fishers.  No response to date.	N/A
Vic Fish Pty Ltd	Meeting	21/09/19	SOTS engaged in several discussions and an hour meeting with this stakeholder regarding bird mortality with an operating wind farm in the licence area.  SOTS listened to stakeholder concerns and asked them to submit concerns in writing so the concerns could be better understood and investigated.	SOTS has requested specialist consultants and researchers to investigate concerns about birds as part of the environmental assessment process. SOTS provided interim response and noted that concerns related to development of wind farm rather than site investigations.  SOTS will continue to provide regular and timely project updates.



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