Our Jobs - Our industry - Our Coast

Offshore Windfarms and The Illawarra

Right now, the Commonwealth government is holding a consultation on declaring an 'Offshore Renewable Energy Area' in the Ocean off the coast of the Illawarra.

- This is an incredible opportunity for Illawarra workers and our entire community to build the renewable energy infrastructure we need to create thousands of good union jobs and meet our climate obligations at the same time.
- Offshore wind will provide the renewable energy to keep Illawarra manufacturing going and allow the furnaces at BlueScope to keep making the steel we need. This means an economic injection not just into Port Kembla but all the small business and communities that depend on well paying union jobs that we all know lead to stronger local economy.
- We have a skilled workforce, great electricity grid connections and port infrastructure, a location close to large electricity loads, and strong and consistent winds that blow at times that solar power isn't available.
- Floating turbines act as Fish Aggregating Devices.
- Climate change and the heating of oceans is the greatest threat to ocean life not wind turbines

Energy Minister Chris Bowen says the Illawarra offshore renewable energy area has the capacity to create 2,500 construction jobs and 1,250 ongoing local jobs. It will also require over 3m tons of steel for the projects Australia wide. Let's make it our steel!

The urgency of injecting clean energy into our grid and industry means that we cannot afford to let this opportunity go by and we call on Minister Bowen to prioritise the area off our coast for wind power generation, it must be given the greatest priority and not be constrained by other departments such as defence.

We are asking everyone in the community to participate in the consultation and show their support for the Declaration of this Offshore Renewable Energy Area, before Monday 16 October. Click here https://consult.dcceew.gov.au/oei-illawarra/take-the-survey or scan this QR Code:

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