



# Western Australian Speleological Group (Inc.)

Full Council Member of the Australian Speleological Federation (Inc.)

ABN: 91 294 818 515

Founded 1958

**[www.wasg.org.au](http://www.wasg.org.au)**

PO Box 67 Nedlands WA 6909

*Telluris Operta Subire*

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22 September 2023

Mr Mike Suk-Udom  
Infinite Green Energy (IGE)

Via email to: [msukudom@igeh2.com](mailto:msukudom@igeh2.com)

Dear Mr Suk-Udom

## **Endorsement by the Western Australian Speleological Group that IGE has addressed our concerns about the Arrowsmith Hydrogen Project's potential impact on caves and karst in the area**

I am writing on behalf of the Western Australian Speleological Group (WASG) to thank IGE for meeting with myself, Greg Thomas and Valdimar Jonsson at your offices on 12 September 2023 to discuss WASG's concerns with respect to the potential impacts of the project on caves and karst within the Arrowsmith property, and the mitigating measures undertaken and planned to be undertaken by IGE to prevent such impacts.

Our understanding of the mitigating measures adopted by IGE is as follows:

- Locations of turbines, cabling, roads and other infrastructure associated with the hydrogen plant have been adjusted to avoid the cave, karst and lake areas, minimising any potential for direct impact;
- Cabling will be run on the surface following access tracks/firebreaks which avoid the cave, karst and lake areas, removing the need for additional clearing, trenching or power pole installation;
- The number of proposed wind turbines for the project has been reduced from 25 down to 18, by virtue of newer turbine technology offering increased turbine efficiency, allowing less turbines to produce the same amount of energy, with a possible further reduction in the number of turbines possible should more efficient turbines become available prior to construction;
- Geophysical investigations will be conducted on access tracks and infrastructure locations to assess the ground conditions, specifically including the identification of any underground cavities, with identification of cavities which may be at risk of collapse necessitating realignment/relocation of roads/infrastructure; and
- Geotechnical investigations of turbine locations will be conducted to confirm that there are no cavities at risk of collapse under the turbine footings.

Further to these mitigating measures, IGE has committed to advising WASG should any unknown caves/cavities be identified, as well as allowing continued access to the property by cavers to visit and monitor the caves. WASG understands this access will be permitted by way of a written application using a pro-forma to be provided by IGE, with two (2) weeks considered sufficient notice for approval. WASG anticipates that these visits will not be frequent and as such should not pose an administrative burden to IGE. WASG is currently planning to visit the site in November, and should we identify any issues which may be of concern to IGE we will communicate them to you.

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*"What we have now is all there will ever be ~ Conserve Australia's Caves"*



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WASG greatly appreciates IGE's willingness to understand our concerns with the potential impact of the Arrowsmith Hydrogen Project on the caves and karst in the area, and is satisfied that the changes made by IGE, and the forward approach as presented in the meeting, have addressed these concerns.

On this basis WASG is willing to endorse that IGE has addressed our concerns over the Arrowsmith Hydrogen Project's potential impact on caves and karst in the area.

Yours sincerely

Ian Collette  
President, WASG