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MEDIA RELEASE

Supplier engagement sessions to showcase offshore wind opportunities for local business.

Blue Mackerel is calling on local businesses to learn how they can be part of Victoria's emerging offshore wind industry, with a series of supplier engagement sessions taking place across Gippsland and in Hastings later this month.

Backed by two of the world's leading energy companies, Blue Mackerel is building relationships with local suppliers and service providers as it progresses plans for its proposed offshore wind project off the Gippsland coast.

The supplier engagement sessions are designed to help local businesses understand future opportunities within the offshore wind supply chain and connect directly with the Blue Mackerel team.

Businesses attending will have the opportunity to:

- Meet the team behind the project
- Learn about potential future procurement opportunities
- Understand the capabilities and services sought by the project
- Position their business for future work in Victoria's growing offshore wind industry

Regional businesses are expected to play an important role in supporting the development of offshore wind, with opportunities likely to span a diverse range of sectors including civil works, transport, logistics, manufacturing of ancillary equipment, environmental and professional services.

Blue Mackerel is encouraging businesses, including First Nations-owned businesses, to attend the sessions and learn more about how they can participate in this growing industry.

"Blue Mackerel has engaged many local suppliers in our early project stage and we will continue our commitment to local business" says Project Director David Ghaly.

"These sessions are an opportunity for us to meet with suppliers, better understand the expertise that exists in the regions and continue conversations about how local businesses can contribute to the delivery of offshore wind projects in the years ahead."

Supplier engagement sessions will be held at:

- **Hastings** – Smart Brothers Brewing
Thursday 22 October, 4-6pm
- **Leongatha** – McCartins Hotel
Tuesday 27 October, 4-6pm
- **Traralgon** – Crown Hotel
Wednesday 28 October, 4-6pm
- **Sale** – Criterion Hotel
Thursday 29 October, 4-6pm

Businesses interested in attending can register online and www.bluemackerel.com.au/suppliers

Project background

Located approximately 10km off the Gippsland coast on Brataualung and Tatungalung Country, between Seaspray and Woodside Beach, Blue Mackerel has the potential to generate 1 GW of electricity. At full capacity, that's enough to power up to 750,000 Victorian homes a year by 2035. As Victoria's remaining coal-fired power stations retire, the project will help deliver new, clean, and reliable electricity into the grid.

Blue Mackerel is being developed by JERA Nex bp, a 50:50 joint venture between JERA Co. and bp. JERA Nex bp is a purpose-built offshore wind company committed to unlocking the power of offshore wind by developing high-quality, competitive projects.

For further information or enquiries, please contact:

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