

WHITE ROCK Wind Farm



Welcome to the second White Rock Wind Farm newsletter.

White Rock Wind Farm is located in the New England Tablelands approximately 20 km west of Glen Innes and 40 km east of Inverell. We plan to build 70 turbines in the first stage along with the related civil and electrical infrastructure, with the total capacity of Stage 1 to be 175 MW.

What's happening?

Preparation for construction to start in April 2016 is ongoing.

Construction Environment Management Plan Approved

The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) has been approved by the Department of Planning and Environment, which represents a major milestone towards commencing construction. The CEMP outlines the environmental management practices and procedures to be followed during construction. The CEMP documents can be found on the project website (www.whiterockwindfarm.com/the-project/managing-impacts).

Balance of Plant contract awarded

Following a lengthy competitive tendering process, the Balance of Plant contract has been awarded to Fulton Hogan, an engineering firm with over 80 years of experience in the transport, mining, energy and water sectors.

The WRWF construction team are working with Fulton Hogan to prepare for construction. A plane recently collected LiDAR data (a type of remote sensing technology) across the site to update contour data for the wind farm. Detailed site surveys and geotechnical investigations will be taking place shortly to further refine the wind farm design work prior to the start of construction in April.

Community Consultative Committee Update

The aim of the CCC is to provide a forum for open discussion between representatives of WRWF, the community, the council and other stakeholders, and to keep the community informed of progress.

The CCC met in August 2015, November 2015 and February 2016. Meeting minutes are available on the project website and in the public libraries in Glen Innes and Inverell.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 5th of May in the Library Learning Centre, Glen Innes. Any person may attend the meeting as an observer. For further information please contact us.

Following the request for expressions of interest for additional community representatives on the CCC, ten applications were received. The Department of Planning and Environment appointed two new members to the committee. Thank you to all who applied and we look forward to working with the enlarged committee.

Local Business Participation Program Update

Over 60 representatives from local businesses attended a supplier information briefing in Glen Innes in December. The event was held in partnership with the NSW Department of Industry and the Industry Capability Network (ICN). It forms part of WRWF's objectives to facilitate economic benefits for the local communities. Attendees heard from the WRWF Project and Construction Teams and the recently announced Balance of Plant contractor Fulton Hogan.

The details of all local businesses who registered through the ICN Gateway will now be provided to Fulton Hogan who will follow up with appropriate suppliers and contractors.



INDICATIVE TIMELINE

Jul 2012

Planning Approval granted

Oct 2014

Goldwind Australia acquired the project

2015

Early 2015
Study of layout and design options

Jun 2015
Agreement with Transgrid for grid connection

Dec 2015
Approval of the Construction Environment Management Plan

Dec 2015
Appointment of Balance of Plant contractor

2016

Apr 2016
Targeted ground breaking on site

May 2016
Start of substation & transmission line construction

Sept 2016
Expected turbine delivery

2017

Early 2017
First power on

Late 2017
Targeted for construction to be complete



Goldwind and Vodafone installed mobile tower at White Rock



In December, the first Mobile Black Spot tower was opened at White Rock under the Australian Government's Mobile Black Spot Programme. Goldwind was joined by Vodafone, Barnaby Joyce MP, John Berilaro MP and Adam Marshall MP to formally open

the tower. It will provide increased mobile phone reception in the region for residents and businesses, as well as phone reception across the wind farm site. We were delighted to work with Vodafone on this initiative and start to deliver benefits from the project amongst the local community.

Minor Modifications to Project Approval Proposed

The project team has identified minor variations to the road and transmission layout which would reduce the environmental impact and facilitate a more practical and efficient project. The variations would reduce vegetation clearing and disturbance and result in benefits for constructability and operational efficiency. The variations to the layout are minor, but as some changes exceed the 100 m micro-siting allowance of project components a modification has been sought from the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).

The Modification Application can be viewed on the DPE website (majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=7433)

EARLY CONSTRUCTION WORKS



Before the main construction works start, we have planned a number of early works. These will be completed before the main construction works commence in April, so you may notice an increase in sub-contractors working in the area over the next few weeks.

- Two permanent and three temporary meteorological masts have been installed to measure wind data on the site. The additional data will allow for pre-construction baseline noise monitoring and for verification of the wind turbine performance.
- Design work and establishing safe site entrances from the Gwydir Highway, Ilparran Road and Kelleys Road.

FACTS



70 turbines in Stage 1



\$30-\$40 million
into local economy during construction



1.9 million tonnes
of greenhouse gas emissions saved by 2020*



548 gigawatt hours
of electricity produced annually



75,000 homes annually
serviced by electricity produced*

Up to 200 jobs during construction
+
10-15 jobs during operations

* Figures calculated using the NSW Wind Farm Greenhouse Gas Saving Tool on the Office of Environment and Heritage website

White Rock Solar Farm

Goldwind Australia are in the early stages of developing a solar farm opportunity adjacent to the White Rock Wind Farm. The development is planned to form a pioneering hybrid solar/wind renewable energy facility and would include 20 MW of solar generation.

Significant infrastructure is proposed to be shared with the wind farm, including the grid connection, access tracks and some internal electrical cabling. The potential for the solar farm to share infrastructure maximises the use of available facilities without requiring construction of additional facilities elsewhere. Co-location of the project potentially unlocks over \$5 million of savings, improving the solar project costs.

It is anticipated that around 46,000 megawatt hours (MWh) would be generated by the scheme each year, which is sufficient to power 6,300 NSW homes annually.

The project is in early stages of development, with a number of sites adjacent to the wind farm under consideration. Environmental surveys are underway and the results will inform the detailed design and impact assessment. A Development Application will be submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment in the first quarter of 2016.

Further information will be made available as the project progresses, including a public open day giving the community an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed solar farm.

Local Sponsorship

WRWF has sponsored a number of local events in the last few months as part of our strong commitment to creating a positive role in the local community.

We provided major sponsorship for Gather in the Glen in October. Our Community Engagement Manager, Clare Powell, attended the Gala Dinner and thought it was a fantastic event and very well organised by the committee.

Also in October a number of our project team enjoyed the Glen Innes Show Society Show Jumping Weekend where we provided Silver Sponsorship as the White Rock Wind Farm Accumulator class event.

We were also pleased to support the three day Glen Innes Show Society Inc. Campdraft in December.



You can contact the project team at any time using the contact details below. We welcome comments and suggestions and are happy to talk through details of the project at any stage. If you would like to meet in person, please contact us and we can arrange a mutually convenient time. Further newsletters will be produced at regular intervals as the project progresses and milestones are achieved.

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