

Project Update



No. 6 – June 2021

Welcome to the latest project update for Winterbourne Wind Farm.

In this edition:

- Find out about the Environmental Impact Statement we are currently preparing for the proposed Winterbourne Wind Farm near Walcha, and the environmental investigations underway in the area.
- The NSW State Government's recent announcement about the New England renewable energy zone.
- We share the latest data about renewable energy costs.
- We are keen to meet with members of the community to provide information about the project.



Update on environmental impact assesment

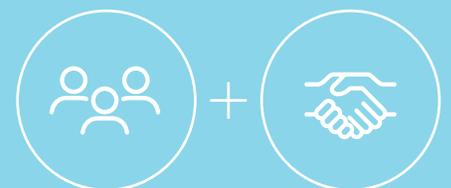
As part of the Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the project, environmental specialists are assessing a range of potential environmental impacts including landscape and visual impacts, noise and vibration, biodiversity, heritage and social impacts.

WinterbourneWind is currently undertaking detailed environmental studies in the area, and investigations are expected to continue over the coming months.

Results from the assessments will inform an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which will be made available for community feedback by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Subject to approval, construction on the project is expected to commence in 2023.



WinterbourneWind is working with landowners in the area while investigations are being conducted. If you have any questions about the investigations, please contact us via info@winterbournewindfarm.com.au



Upcoming community engagement

In coming months, we will be meeting with community groups and local government representatives, to provide information about the project and answer questions that people may have. These sessions will include an overview of the project, our current activities and the community benefit fund.

If you'd like to find out more about the project, please email info@winterbournewindfarm.com.au. We value your feedback and look forward to hearing from you.



Community Consultative Committee

A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) has been established with an independent chairperson appointed by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). The CCC performs an advisory and consultative role, providing a forum for discussion between WinterbourneWind and representatives from the local community and local councils.

The Committee meets approximately every quarter. At the first meeting held in March 2021, WinterbourneWind's Project Director Doug Landfear provided an overview of the project. Committee members heard about the project design, local economic opportunities, and the community benefit fund.

At the most recent meeting, held on Monday 7 June 2021, members raised a number of items:

- Community benefits fund and how this will work.
- Legal obligations of wind farm operators in relation to decommissioning and rehabilitation.
- Housing of workers during construction and how this will be managed.
- Impacts during construction and operation and how these will be addressed and managed.

Minutes from the meetings are made available on the project website approximately one week after each meeting at winterbournewindfarm.com.au/downloads/. The next CCC meeting is scheduled for Monday 2 August 2021.

New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ)

The NSW Government has announced it is in the early stages of developing a Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) in the New England Region around Armidale, and has called for expressions of interest from generation, storage and network developers.

REZs aim to replace traditional power stations with renewable energy generation to deliver affordable, reliable and clean energy to homes, businesses and industries. With some of the best natural energy resources in the country, the New England region will be the State's second REZ, after a successful pilot REZ in the Central-West Orana region around Dubbo and Wellington.

For more information, visit the New England REZ ROI webpage energy.nsw.gov.au/renewables/renewable-energy-zones/new-england-renewable-energy-zone-registration-interest.

Wind and solar still the cheapest sources of new-build electricity, CSIRO confirms

A recent report by the CSIRO on the cost of electricity generation in Australia has confirmed solar and wind are the cheapest sources of new electricity generation in Australia. The report was compiled from consultation conducted by the CSIRO with industry stakeholders and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).

The report concluded:



Solar and wind continue to be the cheapest sources of new-build electricity



The new cost estimate (updated from December 2020) factors in additional integration costs such as storage and new transmission infrastructure

To read the full report, visit csiro.au/en/news/News-releases



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We are committed to keeping you informed about the project, and we want to hear from you! Visit www.winterbournewindfarm.com.au or call 1800 252 040 to learn more.

