

# Winterbourne Wind

## Welcome to our latest project update

In this edition:

- Read about progress on our environmental impact assessment
- Learn about Vestas' progress towards zero-waste wind turbines by 2040
- The NSW State Government's recent announcement about the New England Renewable Energy Zone
- Hear our update on engagement activities during current COVID-19 restrictions

## Project at a glance

WinterbourneWind is currently preparing environmental impact assessments to document potential visual, noise, biodiversity, transport and other potential impacts, as well as social and economic benefits. These studies will be conducted by specialist practitioners and will be documented in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project. The EIS will be put on public exhibition by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for the community to provide feedback. We will be undertaking additional biodiversity surveys in the spring, and then expect to finalise the EIS early in 2022.

### Project Summary

<b>Status</b>	Planning and approvals stage
<b>Planned capacity</b>	Approx 700MW
<b>Investment</b>	Over \$1 billion
<b>Turbines</b>	Up to 119 turbines
<b>Blade tip height</b>	Up to 230m
<b>Connection</b>	Approx 50km of new 330kV transmission line

The current proposed project layout is shown on the back of this page. The final project design will depend on information gathered during the environmental assessments, technical considerations such as constructability and wind speed, and feedback from the community. An example of a recent change to the project layout is a reduction from 125 turbines to 119 turbines, to lessen visual impact from the Oxley Highway and Apsley Falls. To further reduce visual impact and construction impacts, WinterbourneWind has also reduced the blade tip height from 250 metres to 230 metres.

## Vestas and zero waste turbines

The proposed project will utilise the latest Vestas wind turbine technology. The average Vestas wind turbine is currently 85% recyclable. This means that 85% of the weight of the turbine can be fully recycled or re-used. Vestas recently announced new technology that will soon enable full recycling of turbine blades. This technology will help Vestas achieve our goal of zero-waste wind turbines by 2040. Vestas is also implementing initiatives designed to address the handling of existing blades after decommissioning.



For more information, please visit [vestas.com/en/about/sustainability](https://vestas.com/en/about/sustainability)

## New England Renewable Energy Zone

The NSW Government recently announced it is in the early stages of developing a Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) in the New England region around Armidale, and invited renewable energy generation, storage and network developers to register their interest. The Winterbourne Wind Farm will contribute significantly to the proposed REZ, and the project will help inform the technical design, planning, and staging of infrastructure development in the REZ. With some of the best natural energy resources in the country, the New England region will be the State's second REZ.

For more information, visit the New England REZ webpage [energy.nsw.gov.au/renewables/renewable-energy-zones](https://energy.nsw.gov.au/renewables/renewable-energy-zones)

## Virtual stakeholder engagement during COVID-19

Due to travel restrictions in NSW as a result of COVID-19, our team has been unable to travel to Walcha and its surrounds to conduct face-to-face community and stakeholder engagement as desired. We remain committed to consulting with our stakeholders, which we will do virtually until restrictions are eased. This likely includes our next Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meeting scheduled for Monday 6th September. Our WinterbourneWind office in Walcha will remain closed during this time. In the meantime we recommend you subscribe to our mailing list for regular updates to stay in the loop about current activities and community initiatives, or alternatively phone 1800 252 040 or email [info@winterbournewindfarm.com.au](mailto:info@winterbournewindfarm.com.au) should you have further enquiries.

