

HEXHAM

Wind Farm



PROJECT UPDATE

We recently advised that the proposed Hexham Wind Farm is subject to an Environment Effects Statement (EES) assessment. This assessment, managed by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on behalf of the Minister for Planning is expected to take up to two years to complete.

The issuing of draft EES scoping requirements by the Minister is the next step in the process and will provide further detail on the environmental matters to be investigated in the EES assessment.

DELWP has been working with our team and other agencies to prepare the draft scoping requirements and will exhibit these over a 15 business day period for public comment. After a review of the public comments the final scoping requirements will then be issued by the Minister.

Keep an eye on the project website as well as the Warrnambool Standard for information about the draft EES scoping requirements and how you can provide feedback.

An EES Consultation Plan is also being prepared and will be made available through the project's website and DELWP website. The plan describes the engagement activities we will carry out during the assessment process.

Since our last update, we have continued to meet with landowners, project neighbours and the broader community about the proposed project. These conversations are critical to understand the potential effects of the project on local people and the environment, and meaningful ways that we can work together to minimise any negative impacts and maximise the benefits.

Projects like this one are often complex and consultation helps us to identify issues of concern. We encourage you to contact our team to ask any questions you may have or to provide information you think is important for our impact assessment studies.

Finally, we would like to thank the community for their ongoing interest in the project and wish everyone a happy and safe New Year.

Regards,

Rory McManus

Hexham Wind Farm

Senior Development Manager

KEY FACTS



WIND TURBINES
Up to 108



TURBINE HEIGHT
Up to 250m



PROPOSAL LOCATION
Between Hexham, Caramut and Ellerslie in south-west Victoria



SITE SIZE
About 16,000 hectares



MUNICIPALITY
Moyne Shire



RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning



LAND HOLDERS
14



INSTALLED CAPACITY
About 700 megawatts (MW)



POWER GENERATION
About 2400 gigawatt hours (GWh) per year



HOMES POWERED
About 530,000 per year, or a city the size of Warrnambool more than 35 times over



EMISSION SAVINGS
About 2.7 million tonnes of CO₂ per year



PROJECT STATUS
Environment and planning approvals stage



INFORMATION SESSIONS

In June this year, community drop-in sessions were held at the Hexham, Caramut and Ellerslie community halls, providing an opportunity for the community to discuss the project, find out more about the EES process and meet the team.

A small number of people 'dropped-in' to discuss the project including the current sponsorship fund and future Neighbour Benefit Sharing Program, the ecology and noise assessments carried out to date, and planned project timelines.

Sometimes the format of these types of sessions might not work for everyone, so we welcome your suggestions about ways to reach more people when we next have information to share.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Since 2019, the Moyne Shire's Community Engagement Committee (CEC) has met 11 times on a quarterly basis. The CEC comprises three Moyne Shire councillors, six members of the local community and two Wind Prospect staff members. The most recent CEC meeting was in October this year and we heard from community members on matters that are important to them and their communities. We encourage people to reach out to the CEC community members to find out more about project.

TECHNICAL REFERENCE GROUP

A Technical Reference Group (TRG) is convened and coordinated by DELWP for the duration of the EES process. This group includes statutory decision-makers and government-appointed subject matter experts. We will meet with the TRG regularly and receive advice from them during the EES process.

The project's first TRG meeting has been held, and a site tour was conducted in early December for members to see the proposed site.



ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS

Nature Advisory undertook further Brolga breeding surveys at the project site in September to November 2022 and these surveys will continue into December.



Community sponsorship

We would like to remind everyone that the Hexham Wind Farm community sponsorship fund is open year-round with \$20,000 of funding available every year.

The fund helps community groups to enhance or improve community services, programs, initiatives and facilities – basically it is designed to improve community life for all residents around the proposed wind farm. Funding was recently awarded to the following organisations:

Mortlake Kindergarten

\$6,000 of project sponsorship funding was awarded to refresh the children's sandpit and playing area as well provide topsoil for the vegetable patch.

Anglicare Victoria Southwest

\$2,200 was awarded to Anglicare to purchase new shelving and panel heaters at the Emergency Relief Centre in Mortlake.

Hexham Recreation Reserve

\$3,764 was awarded to the Hexham Recreation Reserve for the purchase and installation of a new 22,500 litre tank as pictured above.

**Open
now!**

**Application
forms are
available on the
project website
community page!**