

HEXHAM

Wind Farm



PROJECT UPDATE

We are continuing to progress the Hexham Wind Farm through the environmental and planning approvals process, following the Department of Transport and Planning's release of the final scoping requirements in September 2024. As part of this, we are preparing comprehensive studies on key topics, including ecology, water, cultural heritage, landscape and visual amenity, and socioeconomic effects. These assessments are essential to ensuring the Project is designed and delivered responsibly, with careful consideration of both environmental and community impacts. As we progress through this process, our priority remains balancing the Project's benefits with the needs and priorities of those who live and work in the region.

Keeping the community informed and involved is a key priority as the Project progresses. Over the coming months, the team will be back out in the region to share updates, answer questions about the preliminary findings from some of the environmental and social studies, and listen to community feedback. We'll be attending the Mortlake Markets on 18 May 2025, and hosting drop-in sessions in Hexham, Caramut and Ellerslie, where more detail will be available on impact assessments and proposed mitigation measures. Community members are encouraged to come along, meet the team, and provide feedback on the Project.

In addition to progressing the planning and approvals process, we are committed to supporting local communities. The Hexham Wind Farm Sponsorship Fund has been established to provide up to \$20,000 per year to eligible organisations and community groups during the project development phase. This funding is designed to help local groups enhance their services, programs, initiatives and facilities. If you are part of a community organisation that could benefit from this support, we encourage you to apply via the Hexham Wind Farm website.

We appreciate the ongoing interest and engagement from the community and look forward to continuing the conversation in the months ahead. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to the project team on **1800 934 322** or at info@hexhamwindfarm.com.au.



Rory McManus
Hexham Wind Farm
Senior Development Manager

AT A GLANCE



LOCATION

Approximately 15 km west of Mortlake and 15 km north-east of Woolsthorpe. Hexham is the nearest community, approximately 3 km north-east of the Project area.



PROJECT STATUS

Preparation of the Environment Effects Statement (EES)



TURBINES

Up to 106, subject to approvals.



GENERATION

Up to 515,000 homes per year.



JOB CREATION

360 jobs during construction and 24 once operational.



BENEFIT SHARING

A sponsorship fund of \$20,000 per year. Once operational, the sponsorship fund will transition into the Community Benefit Fund, which will provide ongoing annual support for the community over the life of the Project.



GRID CONNECTION

An onsite terminal will be built next to the existing 500 kV transmission line within the project site, meaning, new transmission lines are not required.



PROJECT LIFESPAN

25+ years.

EES UPDATE

The Hexham Wind Farm is currently in the environmental and planning approvals phase of development with preparation of the Environment Effects Statement (EES) underway. The EES is a crucial part of the planning and approval process for major projects like this one in Victoria. It helps assess the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of the project, ensuring that any impacts on the local community and environment are understood and addressed.

THE EES PROCESS

As part of the EES, a range of detailed studies are being conducted to assess the potential impacts of the Project. These include but are not limited to:



Biodiversity and ecology: Assessing the impact on local wildlife, including any risks to protected species and habitats.



Water resources: Evaluating potential effects on local water systems, such as wetlands and streams, as well as groundwater.



Cultural heritage: Investigating the potential impact on both Aboriginal and European cultural heritage sites.



Noise, dust and traffic: Analysing how construction and operational activities might affect local amenity, including noise levels, dust and traffic.



Visual amenity: Examining how the wind turbines could alter the landscape and considering measures to reduce visual impacts.



Socioeconomic effects: Assessing how the project could impact local agriculture, the regional economy and infrastructure.



Fire risk: Assessing fire risk associated with bushfire and a fire starting within the proposed infrastructure.

The aim of these studies is to identify any potential issues and develop strategies to mitigate or manage them.

PROJECT TIMELINE



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THE EES PROCESS

Community engagement is an essential part of the EES process and the development of the Project. Wind Prospect is committed to keeping local residents, landowners and other stakeholders informed and involved and will continue to do this through:

- **Consultation during preparation:** Throughout the EES preparation phase, Wind Prospect is engaging with the community through information sessions, newsletters, and one-on-one consultations. This provides opportunities for local stakeholders to raise concerns, ask questions, and share their views.
- **Feedback on the EES:** Once the EES is prepared, it will be made available to the public for review. This gives the community a chance to formally provide feedback on the findings to the Minister for Planning. Any issues raised in this stage will be carefully considered, and adjustments to the Project will be made if necessary.
- **Ongoing communication:** Wind Prospect is committed to maintaining open lines of communication throughout the process to ensure that the community remains informed and involved at all stages.

THE NEXT STEPS

After completing the studies and considering feedback, Wind Prospect will prepare the final EES which will detail the findings of the studies and the proposed management measures. When the EES is complete, the Minister for Planning will release it for public comment and interested members of the public and organisations can make written submissions in response. The Minister may then appoint an Inquiry to consider the effects of the project having regard to the EES and public submissions before making an assessment. That assessment is then passed on to decision making authorities including the Minister for Planning and its recommendations will inform the Project's planning permit application.

Further information about the planning permit application process and how the public can get involved will be provided closer to the time of lodgement.



For more information about the EES process you can visit the Department of Transport and Planning's website at:
planning.vic.gov.au/environmental-assessment

Or, email the Impact Assessment Unit at:
environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au.



APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR HEXHAM SPONSORSHIP FUND

The Hexham Wind Farm is proud to continue supporting local initiatives through our sponsorship fund. We are now calling for applications from community groups, schools and clubs who are seeking funding for initiatives that benefit the local area.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES:

Eligibility: Applications are open to local community groups, not-for-profit organisations, schools and clubs in the surrounding areas.

Project types: We are looking to support initiatives that promote community engagement, education, health and local infrastructure improvements.

Funding amounts: Grants of up to \$5,000 are available per project.

The sponsorship fund is designed to support activities that contribute to the well-being and development of the community. We're proud to have supported a variety of local initiatives through the Fund, including:



\$2,971 Mortlake Kindergarten for the purchase and installation of four ceiling fans.



\$1,000 Mortlake Lions Club for their 2023 Carols by Candlelight event.



\$3,740 Woorndoo Mortlake Football Netball Club to purchase a bain marie heated food display.



\$1,985 Little Colman's Playtime at St Colman's Primary School.



\$4,000 Caramut Football and Netball Club for first aid and CPR training for community members.

All applications will be reviewed by the Hexham Wind Farm team, with successful applicants notified within four weeks of submission.



APPLY NOW FOR COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP



To find out more and to apply, scan the QR code or visit:

www.hexhamwindfarm.com.au/sponsorshipform



UPCOMING ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We'll be back out in the community over the coming months as part of our next phase of engagement for the Hexham Wind Farm.

We encourage you to come along, meet the Project team and learn more about the Environment Effects Statement (EES) process and some of the preliminary findings from key technical studies.

Mortlake Markets

Sunday 18 May 2025
9am – 1pm

COMMUNITY DROP-IN SESSIONS

Hexham Old School Hall

Monday 19 May 2025
8am – 10am

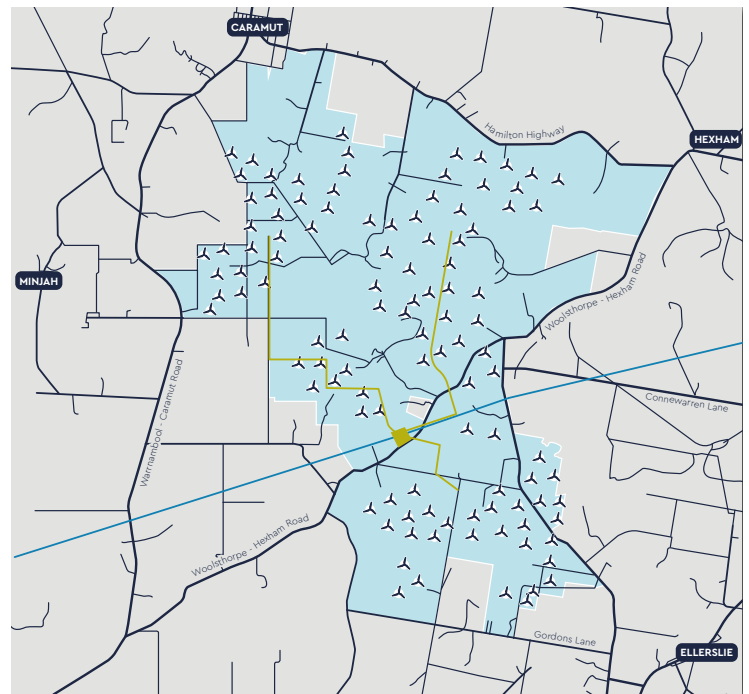
Caramut Hall

Monday 19 May 2025
12pm – 3pm

Ellerslie Hall

Monday 19 May 2025
4pm – 6.30pm

We look forward to seeing you there!



LEGEND

- Turbine location
- Project boundary
- Terminal station and BESS
- Internal overhead powerlines
- 500kV Moorabool-Heywood transmission line



LOCATION

The above map shows the current indicative layout of proposed wind turbines for the Project. Turbine locations will be finalised through detailed environmental, cultural heritage, technical and community assessments as part of the EES process.



KEEP UPDATED

Newsletters and updates are distributed to share information with the local community and other stakeholders. If you wish to receive these communications, please join our mailing list. Contact the team to provide your contact details or sign up to the mailing list on the project website at: hexhamwindfarm.com.au/news.



Wind Prospect respectfully acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our office and each of our projects are located. We also acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to the land and pay our respect to their elders past, present and emerging.

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