

COPPABELLA Wind Farm



*Gullen Range Wind Farm,
located in the Southern Tablelands, NSW.*

Welcome to the first edition of the Coppabella Wind Farm newsletter. This newsletter provides information and updates about the project. Further editions will be issued regularly as the project progresses.

The Project

Coppabella Wind Farm is located in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales, approximately 30km west of Yass. The Wind Farm was originally a distinct precinct within the larger proposed Yass Valley Wind Farm.

The project was renamed Coppabella Wind Farm to reflect the change from the original project scope and more accurately represent its geographic location.

The natural terrain and consistent wind speeds in this area are significant and the connection to the electricity network is also strong.

Once operational, the wind farm will provide renewable electricity capable of servicing up to approximately 80,000

homes annually. This is more than all the houses in the Southern Tablelands of NSW area.

Coppabella Wind Farm will extend approximately 12 kilometres west to east and up to 10 kilometres north to south along the Coppabella Hills near the towns of Bookham and Binalong.

The NSW Government has approved construction and operation of up to 79 wind turbines and related civil and electrical infrastructure.

Coppabella Wind Farm has submitted a modification application to modify the Development Consent for the project – more details inside.

¹ Calculated using the NSW Wind Farm Greenhouse Gas Saving Tool on the Office of Environment and Heritage website (Based on an average NSW household electricity consumption of 7.3 MWh annually.)

Project Modification

Coppabella Wind Farm has recently submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, an application to modify the Development Consent SSD-6698.

This modification is required to enable optimum development, efficient operation and, competitively priced power to be provided into the National Electricity Market.



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The key modifications being sought include:

Internal access roads

A variation to the internal access road and earthworks design is required as the original design that was used for the Development Consent does not sufficiently account for the complexity of terrain on and around the Coppabella Hills. A detailed road and earthworks design has since been completed and this forms the basis for a realistic earthworks footprint.

As a result, the vegetation impact allowance is required to be increased and an increased biodiversity offset provision specified.

The impact footprint is predominantly made up of grasslands and includes areas that will be temporarily impacted and then rehabilitated after construction.

Increased tip height

Due to the lengthy development review process since the original Yass Valley Wind Farm was submitted for approval in 2009, wind turbine technology has advanced substantially and the modification is required to ensure the project can provide competitively priced power to the National Electricity Market.

The proposed variation in turbine dimensions leads to an increase in the

maximum blade tip height from 150 metres to 171 metres.

Additionally, a number of minor modifications are being sought to allow for the optimal construction of the project.

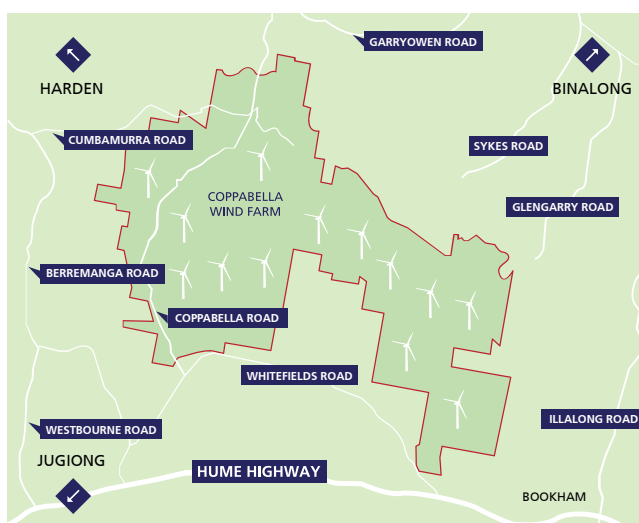
The modified design has been developed in parallel with further environmental assessments to minimise any increase in environmental impacts.

The associated application documents can be found online at the NSW Department of Planning and Environment major project register.

Hard copies of the documentation will be available at the following locations:


- **Hilltops Council**
3 East Street, Harden;
- **Harden Library**
East Street, Harden;
- **Yass Valley Council**
209 Comur Street, Yass;
- **Yass Valley Library**
88 Comur Street, Yass;
- **Binalong Post Office**
28 Fitzroy Street, Binalong; and
- **Nature Conservation Council**
Level 14, 338 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Feedback on the modification application can be submitted to the NSW DPE during the public exhibition period: **Friday, 22 September 2017, to Monday, 23 October 2017.**



KEY

— Coppabella Wind Farm project development footprint

 Indicative of the 79 approved turbine locations

LOCAL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Coppabella Wind Farm is committed to local sourcing where feasible, the Local Business Participation Program will be a key initiative to identify capacity in the local community and maximise opportunities for local suppliers to participate in the project. The project is expected to employ 150-200 staff during construction peaks and approximately 10-15 permanent staff when fully operational.

The majority of sub-contracting and employment opportunities will be directly with the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) and Balance of Plant (BoP) contractors. The tendering process for these contracts will commence shortly.

Coppabella Community Consultative Committee

The aim of the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) is to provide a forum for open discussion between representatives of the project, the community, local councils and other stakeholders, and to keep the community informed as the project progresses.

In May 2017, NSW DPE appointed Nic Carmody as the independent chairperson of the CWF CCC. Nic then undertook a recruitment process to appoint community representatives. The DPE has now reviewed Nic's recommendations and subsequently appointed seven community representatives to the CCC.

The first CCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday 5 October from 5pm-7pm in Binalong. Any interested person may attend the meeting as an observer.

To RSVP to attend a meeting as an observer or for further details please contact us. Meeting minutes and associated meeting materials will be available on the project website.

Engagement with near neighbours

To date, the project team has been proactively seeking to meet with all landowners that have residences within 5km of approved turbine locations to discuss the project in detail.

Face-to-face meetings have now occurred with neighbours representing more than 40 local residences.

If you are a near neighbour to the project and you haven't yet had the opportunity to discuss the project in detail, please contact us.

Information Centre OPENING SOON

Coppabella Wind Farm is aiming to open an information centre in Binalong shortly. The information centre will be open part time and will provide information on the project throughout pre-construction and construction phases.

We will shortly be recruiting for a local community relations officer to manage the information centre and act as an interface between the local community and the project.

The position will be advertised in the local papers as well as the project website. We hope to have the information centre up and running over the next few months. Look out for further details.

Stage 1

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Coppabella Wind Farm will shortly be listed as a project on the Industry Capability Network (ICN) Gateway.

This is an independent business network providing an online tool to connect suppliers and projects. Businesses with an ABN can submit Expressions of Interest for the indicative work packages listed for the project.

Once appointed, the main contractor and major subcontractors will be provided with a database of all EOIs submitted.

Stage 2

FURTHER INFORMATION

Following the appointment of the main contractor, an information forum will be held in the local area to provide local businesses with additional information about the available work packages and the process of bidding for subcontracting or supply opportunities with the major subcontractors.

Stage 3

ENGAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS

The main contractor and/or major subcontractor may engage suppliers and subcontractors according to their normal procurement processes which may include tendering for work. Prior to engagement, companies will be required to complete any necessary pre-qualification requirements in accordance with the hiring company (main contractor or major subcontractor).

Community engagement for the project

The project team aims to keep an open dialogue with the local residents, stakeholders and the wider community to ensure successful exchange of information, consultation and engagement for the Coppabella project.

The project also aims to encompass best practice community engagement and endeavour to go beyond the compliance requirements within the Development Consent to facilitate an engaged community.

Coppabella Wind Farm has developed a Stakeholder and Community Engagement Plan. The program of consultation is ongoing and will continue through the construction and operation phases of the wind farm.

Community Benefits

Sponsorship

Coppabella aims to contribute to the local community through financial support of local community initiatives and events.

To date we have had the opportunity to sponsor several local community events such as Harden Murrumburrah Show, Binalong Brahmans and the Jugiong Public School, amongst other initiatives.

Interested local community groups are invited to contact us if they would like to discuss areas potential opportunities for sponsorship.



Community Benefit Fund

Once the project becomes fully operational, a community fund will be established and consist of \$2,500 per installed turbine each year, for the entire life cycle of the project.

Coppabella Wind Farm will work in consultation with the Community Consultative Committee to develop the framework and structure for the fund.



Sponsorship of iPads and notebook computers

Coppabella Wind Farm has provided financial support for the purchasing of new iPads and notebook computers for Jugiong Public School.

The sponsorship is part of the community benefit sharing strategy for the wind farm. Jugiong Public School currently has 29 students, so often the budget does not meet the cost of maintaining up to date technology at a level that is required for students to fully connect with learning opportunities through technology.



From left: Sunny Rutherford, Project Community Engagement Manager; Judy McFadyen, Jugiong Public School Principal; Tom Nielsen, Project Development Manager; Richard Hyles, President of Jugiong Public School P&C.

Tom Nielsen, Development Manager for the project, said Coppabella Wind Farm welcomed the opportunity to support one of the local schools in the area.

'The purpose of the sponsorship fund for the wind farm is to provide financial support to local community initiatives and events in the area. We're really pleased to be able to work with the Jugiong School P&C and staff to make a difference for the learning opportunities for students.' said Tom.

Coppabella and a coffee

If you are interested in having an informal chat about the project, discussing the modification application or any other related topics please drop in for a coffee with project team members.

When: 2pm-5pm on Thursday 5 October (prior to the CCC meeting)

Where: Café on Queen, 15 Queen Street Binalong.

Who: Any interested members of the local community are invited to join Tom, Project Development Manager and Sunny, Project Community Engagement Manager.

COPPABELLA Wind Farm

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