

# COPPABELLA

## Wind Farm

# Project Update for CCC Members

27<sup>th</sup> March 2020



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## ***COVID-19 Update***

*GWA places a high value on proactive engagement with the local community to the Coppabella Wind Farm. In light of coronavirus (COVID-19), GWA staff will continue to proactively share information and respond to enquiries regarding our projects, whilst minimising face to face engagement activities. We are taking the following actions to proactively managing potential impacts:*

- *Closure of Binalong Information Centre to the public.*
  - *Alison is currently working from home.*
- *Postponing in person Community Consultative Committee.*
  - *Information updates will be sent via the Chair.*
  - *We have also informed the Chair we are happy to facilitate phone conference or online meetings in lieu of face to face meetings*
- *Sponsorship Fund continues to operate.*
  - *Be in touch with Alison if you have any sponsorships ideas or proposals.*
- *We welcome any suggestions on how we can better engage and support the local community during this time.*

# COPPABELLA Wind Farm Community Engagement Update

- Two sponsorships this year to date:
  - Binalong Brahmans.
  - Binalong CWA Bushfire fundraiser. Contributed financial support for the events activities and prizes. Binalong CWA raised \$26,000 in their appeal.
- Engagement with Bango Wind Farm’s community engagement officer to share ideas and lessons learned, and communicate about different sponsorship activities.

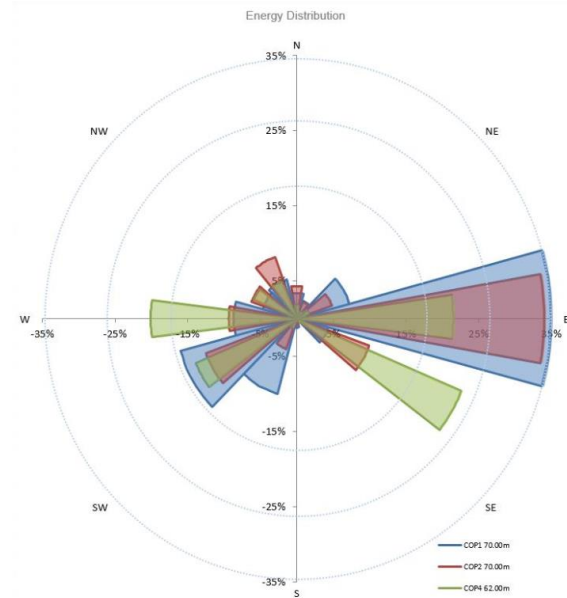
Project Contact Points	
General Information hotline (free call where you leave a messages and Alison will get back to you)	1800 884 689
Email	<a href="mailto:info@coppabellawindfarm.com">info@coppabellawindfarm.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.coppabellawindfarm.com">www.coppabellawindfarm.com</a>
Tom’s direct phone number	0413 237 287
Sunny’s direct phone number	0452 089 769
Alison’s direct phone number	0401 472 691

## Status of Key Project Elements

- ✓ Energy Yield & Layout
- ✓ Planning Approvals (State, Federal, Crown)
- ✓ Land Agreements
- ✓ Firm Pricing for Construction Contracts
- Grid Connection Agreement
  - Delayed due to changes to the National Electricity Rules
  - Further delays due to COVID-19 impacting wind turbine specialist resources in China
  - Scheduled for mid-late 2020
- Financing
  - Currently in the latter stages of negotiations for equity financing to start construction. Requires Grid Connection Agreement to finalise

### ➤ Energy Assessment - Key Stats

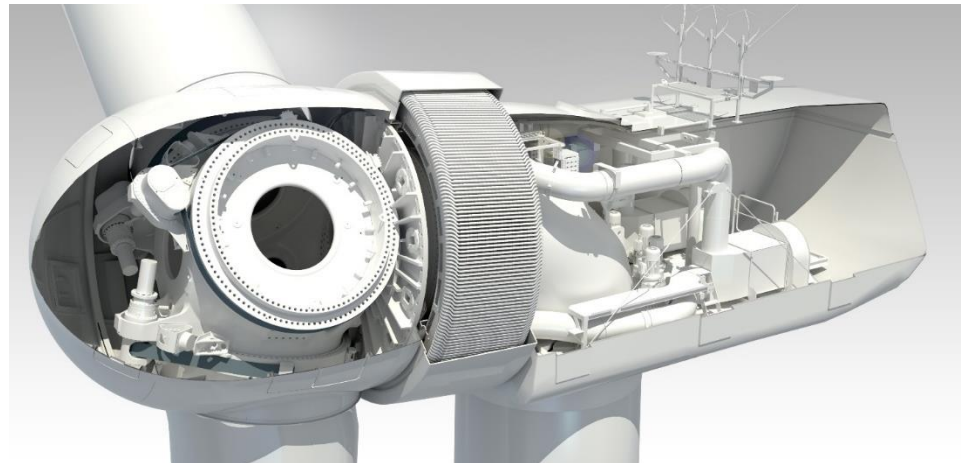
- 7.5m/s (27 km/h):
  - Ave. wind speed at hub height across the site
  - 6.5-8.5m/s across wind turbine locations
- 900 GWh annual energy production
- 25 year wind turbine suitability



### ➤ GW4.2 Wind Turbine

The GW136/4.2MW is currently being proposed for the site:

- Permanent magnet direct drive design
- No high-speed gearbox
- High efficiency
- IEC Class IIA wind turbine
- 100m hub height, 171m tip height



## **NSW DPIE Approval**

- ✓ Development approval in March 2016
- ✓ Mod 1 approval (incl. IPC review) in December 2018
- Secondary Management Plans well progressed

## **Federal EPBC Approval**

- ✓ EPBC Approval of proposed project in November 2018

## **Crown Lands Approval**

- ✓ Crown Lands Licence obtained in August 2019

## Secondary Management Plans

Required prior to **Commencement of Construction**:

- ✓ Aviation Impact Management Plan approved by DPIE (Feb-2018)
- ✓ Roadside Vegetation Management and Landscape Plan approved by DPIE (Aug-2019)
- ✓ Heritage Management Plan approved by NSW DPIE (Jun-2019)
- ✓ Bushfire management consultation with RFS completed (Nov-2019)
- ✓ Environmental Management Strategy approved by NSW DPIE (Feb-2020)
- Traffic Management Plan submitted to DPIE following Council & RMS feedback
  - Addressing final comment
- Biodiversity Management Plan submitted to DPIE and OEH (now BCD)
  - Awaiting detailed civil design to finalise

Required prior to **Commissioning**:

- Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan submitted to BCD and DoEE
  - Updated baseline bird/bat surveys ongoing
    - Bat recorders currently deployed across the site
    - Recent bird utilisation surveys conducted between 19-26 March 2020

Approved Management Plans can be found on the project website: [www.coppabellawindfarm.com/project/managing-impacts/](http://www.coppabellawindfarm.com/project/managing-impacts/)



## Pre-Construction Requirements

- Upgrade Hume Hwy / Whitefields Rd intersection (RMS)
- Upgrade Whitefields Road

## Whitefields Road Upgrade

- ✓ Design minimisation of impacts along heavily treed corridor
- ✓ Tree removal and trimming work completed end of Aug '19, prior to start of Superb Parrot breeding season
  - 10 mature trees removed (including 3 hollow bearing trees) – no further removal anticipated
  - Goldwind Australia managed the works, overseeing traffic controllers, tree surgeons, ecologists and an arborist
  - NSW DPIE compliance team inspected finished work
- ✓ Supplementary planting of 120 seedlings completed end Oct'19
  - Ongoing watering and care
  - Replacement plantings planning over the coming months
- Whitefields Road upgrade works
  - Currently being planned to align with start of construction

## Highway Intersection Upgrade

- ✓ Intersection upgrade designs finalised
- Whitefields Road upgrade works
  - Currently being planned to align with start of construction



## Connection Solution

- 2016** ➤ 150MW project connection proposed to cut into existing 99M TransGrid 132kV transmission line
- 2017** ➤ TransGrid propose restring of 99M between project and Yass to allow project to supply 280MW of wind power into the National Electricity Market (NEM).
- 2018** ➤ Marginal Loss Factor (MLF) and congestion studies determine that project output heavily impacted by power flows and other recently committed projects nearby (predominantly solar).
  - TransGrid propose new dedicated line (90R) to be co-located with 99M on new structures between the project and Yass, within TransGrid's existing land easements
- 2019** ➤ Preliminary Full Impact Assessment (FIA) completed by TransGrid for 132kV connection
  - Direct 330kV connection at Yass substation becomes preferred solution based on updated congestion and MLF studies. TransGrid to construct new 132/330kV transformer at Yass.
  - TransGrid Review of Environmental Factors (REF) undertaken to assess impacts of the line upgrade
  - PSS/e and PSCAD (wind farm connection models) model development for new connection solution
- 2020** ➤ REF Submissions Report from TransGrid being finalised
  - Contract negotiations and finalisation with TransGrid
  - PSS/e and PSCAD model testing and finalisation
  - Connection application planned in Q2, 2020
  - Offer to Connection targeted for mid-late 2020

