

COPPABELLA

Wind Farm



Project Briefing

Community Consultative Committee
28th Nov 2019

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- Project Update
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Status of Key Project Elements

- ✓ Energy Yield & Layout
- ✓ Planning Approvals (State, Federal, Crown)
- ✓ Land Agreements
- ✓ Firm Pricing for Construction Contracts (EPC)
- Grid Connection Agreement
 - Delayed due to changes to the National Electricity Rules
 - Scheduled for early-mid 2020
- Financing
 - Currently seeking equity financing to start construction

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

The majority of Management Plans (required for construction to commence) are close to completion:

- ✓ Aviation Impact Management Plan approved by DPIE in Feb 2018
- ✓ Roadside Vegetation Management and Landscape Plan (RVMLP) approved by DPIE in Aug-2019
- Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) submitted to DPIE:
 - ✓ Heritage Management Plan (HMP) approved by NSW DPIE in June 2019
 - Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) submitted to DPIE and OEH (now BCD)
 - Requires detailed civil design to finalise
 - Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP) submitted to BCD and DoEE
 - Updated baseline bird/bat surveys being undertaken based on comments
 - Traffic Management Plan (TMP) submitted to DPIE in Oct 2019, following Council & RMS feedback
 - Consultation with RFS regarding Emergency Response Plan (ERP)

Pre-Construction Requirements

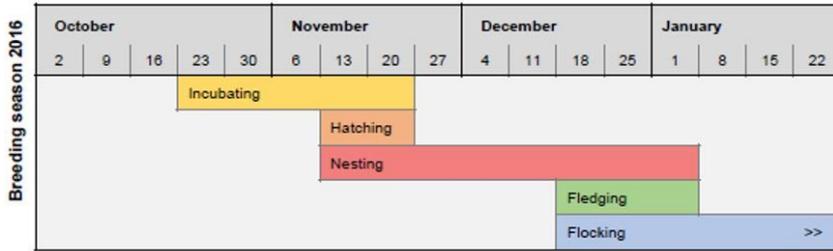
- Upgrade Hume Hwy / Whitefields Rd intersection (RMS)
- Upgrade Whitefields Road

Whitefields Road

- ✓ 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 (Altus), tree surgeons (Ecotrees), ecologists (NGH) and an arborist (Enspec).
 - NSW DPIE compliance team inspected finished work
- ✓ Supplementary planting of 120 seedlings completed end Oct '19
- Whitefields Road upgrade
 - Currently being planned to align with start of construction



Superb parrot (northern colony) breeding timeline



Dr Laura Rayner

Woodland Ecologist

National Superb Parrot Recovery Team, ACT Government

September to January inclusive generously captures the breeding season of superb parrots. Please see attached a breakdown of nesting behaviours that we have tracked in the ACT region. To the best of my knowledge, the ACT nest monitoring program provides the most detailed breeding data available for the species.

Superb parrots may start searching for hollows, and be seen entering and inspecting hollows, much earlier (Aug-Sep) than when they actually settle in hollows to lay their eggs (Oct). The critical nesting phase, when the female is incubating (~21 days) and adults are provisioning their young (~38 days) occurs from approximately October to December inclusive. The timing of breeding may vary regionally, but I suspect not by much.

Of course, to define the breeding season, you have to define *breeding* or *breeding behaviour*. The breeding season as we define it (which matches the Commonwealth approval) includes pair bonding, pairs prospecting for nests, copulating, egg laying, incubating, hatching/nesting, fledging, and creching. Superb parrots may remain at the breeding site for some time after nesting is complete. Likewise, individuals and pairs may arrive on site well in advance of nesting. It's also worth noting that superb parrot movement patterns have been changing recently, we suspect, in response to climatic changes.

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** ➤ TransGrid Review of Environmental Factors (REF) undertaken to assess impacts of the line upgrade.
 - REF completed, submissions report and determination due shortly

Connection Agreement

Grid connection agreement timeframes for the project have been delayed due to the recent changes in the National Electricity Rules for new generators. These changes have resulted in industry wide delays and require a new form of grid system modelling, new system strength requirements, and new testing criteria.

Coppabella is expecting to achieve a grid connection agreement in early-mid 2020.



Community Engagement Update

- Arrangements for the Community Enhancement Funding under Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAs) with councils are currently underway
- VPA includes provisions for the payment, collection, management and distribution of the contributions under the agreement, with a focus on funding community projects in the area surrounding the project site.
- Contribution amount is \$2,500 per installed turbine in each local government area (LGA) each year.
- 10 approved turbine locations in Yass Valley Council LGA and 65 approved turbine locations in Hilltops Council LGA
- Project committed to develop a supplementary community investment model, in consultation with the local community, to invest a further \$100,000 each year into the local area over the life of the project.
- Recent sponsorships
 - Joan's Wish State Titles Sand Drags
 - Binalong P&C Market Fair 2019
 - Harden Kite Festival 2019
 - Yass Celtic and Irish Festival 2019

