

EPURON takes first steps in Gullen Range project

Sydney, September 5, 2007: EPURON has now submitted a Project Application to the Department of Planning seeking its requirements for the Environmental Assessment of the project.

The Project Application is the first stage of the project approval process. It outlines the project under consideration sufficiently to allow the Department of Planning to specify its requirements in relation to EPURON's Environmental Assessment. The Project Application can be found on the Department of Planning website at <http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/asp/register.asp>

The Project Application was lodged following a Planning Focus Meeting (PFM) which was held on-site on the 15th of August. The PFM is a forum that enables relevant government agencies to provide input to the Department of Planning in formulating the environmental assessment requirements for the proposal. At Gullen Range, the PFM included representatives from the Department of Planning, Upper Lachlan and Goulburn Mulwaree Councils, NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Rural Fire Service, Department of Lands, Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority, and Country Energy.

Preliminary environmental investigations at the site have commenced and include background noise measurements, flora and fauna (including bird and bat) investigations, assessment of aboriginal and European heritage values, visual impact studies and traffic and communications studies. The results of these studies will enable Epuron to detail a more comprehensive proposal (including the number and location of turbines, electricity connections and access roads) that is responsive to the site's constraints.

Following on from this preliminary work, EPURON will be in a position to develop its initial proposal for presentation to the local community. In particular, the community will be invited to an Open House later this year, as soon as sufficient details on the project have been developed. This Open House will provide details of proposed turbine locations, and results of planning work to date including noise assessment, visual impact assessment and flora and fauna assessments.

The aim of the Open House is to ensure that the community understands the proposal as presented, and to ensure that EPURON can learn any unforeseen impacts in relation to the project.

"The choice of this site for development has been the culmination of a long selection process with many years of wind monitoring to support it", Project Director Simon Davey said. "Our aim through our community consultation and in particular the Open House is to ensure that EPURON develops the best wind farm that it can in this location."

The Director General of the NSW Department of Planning will shortly prepare its requirements and issue these to EPURON. Once these requirements have been issued, EPURON will

commence preparation of the Environmental Assessment which will be lodged together with the Development Application. The final Environmental Assessment will also be placed on public display by EPURON and the Department of Planning who will seek final submissions on the proposal.

Background

EPURON has received planning approvals for three projects in NSW to date: Snowy Plains (30 Megawatts, near Berridale), Cullerin Range (30 Megawatts, near Goulburn) and Conroy's Gap (30 Megawatts, near Yass).

The NSW Government has recently announced a new renewable energy target, requiring 10% of electricity use in NSW to come from renewable energy by 2010 and 15% by 2020. Legislation for this target was presented in Parliament in June 2007. The current level of renewable energy in NSW is around 7-8%.

The Gullen Range project will be assessed under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 which provides a consolidated assessment and approval regime by the State Government with input from Council.

About EPURON

In 2005, Taurus Energy, which has been exploring wind resources in NSW since 2002, became part of EPURON.

EPURON GmbH is one of the world's leading project development and structured financing companies in the renewable energy sector. The company develops, finances, implements and operates solar and wind farms, solar thermal power stations as well as biogas and bio-ethanol plants.

Since its foundation in 1998, EPURON has financed and implemented over 60 large scale projects with a total capital cost of over 550 million euros. Its clients include institutional and private investors from many countries.

EPURON has subsidiaries or offices in Australia, Germany, Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, South Korea, India, Singapore, Brazil and the USA. EPURON is a part of the listed company Conergy AG, a world leading company in wind, solar and other renewable power systems.

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