

Rye Park Wind Farm

Project Update No 5 | June - July 2012

Latest News

Development of the project is generally progressing to program and the key assessments, studies, and consultation activities are well underway. In the coming months the Environmental Assessment will be finalised with the communities ongoing input and is expected to be lodged with the Department around September/October in readiness for public exhibition.

Key development activity since the last newsletter in March includes;

- Summer environmental survey completed during March/April
- First community consultation committee meeting held 27 June
- Photomontages prepared from selected public road viewpoints
- Noise logging campaign underway at selected house locations
- Feedback from community and studies inform layout design
- Another wind monitoring mast to be installed on site in Aug/Sep

Community Consultation Committee

The first Community Consultation Committee (CCC) meeting for the wind farm was held at Yass Council Chambers on 27 June. Membership of the CCC seeks representation from local council, involved and uninvolved landowners, local community groups and the project proponent.

The CCC has been established as a forum for discussion and feedback on issues directly relating to the assessment and development of the wind farm. Councillor David Needham from Yass Valley Council is Chair of the CCC. Some key points of discussion and feedback arising from the first CCC meeting, in no particular order, include;

- **Access Roads.** Ensure Councils are consulted when the draft Traffic and Transport study is available to make sure construction access routes and any impacts on local roads are considered.
- **Community Fund.** Councils outlined their preferred model for a community fund if established for the project. The CCC is looking for feedback on how to best establish a community fund and what type of local support may be required from the project. The objective is to best maximise local and regional benefits available to the community.
- **CCC Consultation.** The CCC will write to neighbouring landowners to let them know the CCC has been established and to invite them to contribute or participate in future meetings.

Your views and ideas are important to us and we would be pleased to receive any feedback or comments you may have regarding the project. The next CCC meeting is scheduled for 2 August 2012. Details of the project and CCC meeting are available on the Epuron website at <http://www.epuron.com.au/downloads/>



Public Open Day coming to the Rye Park Memorial Hall

A Public Open Day for the proposed wind farm is planned for Thursday 26 July at the Rye Park Memorial Hall.

Please come along and view the information on display about the project. Your feedback is important to us and will be considered in the development of the project.

The Project Manager will be available throughout the day (9am to 5pm) to discuss the proposal and answer any questions you may have about the project.

The current wind farm layout and public road photomontages will be on display including general information about wind energy.

In order to best maximise local benefits from the project, Epuron is also seeking feedback as to how a "Community Fund" might be established, and what kind of local community support is required in the vicinity of the project. Your views and ideas are welcomed in this regard.

We look forward to seeing you at the Public Open Day.

Event: Public Open Day

Date: Thursday 26 July 2012

Time: Opens 9am and closes 5pm

Venue: Rye Park Memorial Hall

Please send us your feedback

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Stages of the Environmental Assessment Process



Preliminary wind farm photomontage at the corner of Cooks Hill Road and Dalton Road

Likely Benefits from the Rye Park Wind Farm

A preliminary estimate of the likely benefits that would be available to the local and regional economy resulting from development of the Rye Park wind farm include the following;

- Total project investment value approx \$750m - \$850m based on 393MW project (131 x 3MW turbines).
- Direct regional investment from construction – \$200m.
- Direct regional investment from operations - \$15m per annum for ~25 years.
- Direct jobs during construction – approximately 250 to 350.
- Direct jobs during operations – approximately 20 to 30 for ~25 years.
- Regional/state/national flow on effects, jobs and expenditure multipliers are being assessed.
- Carbon abatement (eg. tonnes of CO₂) will be calculated as part of the layout completion works.
- Community Fund contributions are being assessed and considered as part of the consultation process.

Grid Connection, Wind Farm Powerlines & Substations

Renewable power generated by the wind farm will be collected and exported to the National Grid at the existing 330kV Transgrid transmission line that crosses the southern section of the site. A new connection substation will be constructed on site adjacent to the existing Transgrid transmission line to facilitate grid connection and export of the wind farms power.

A new overhead wind farm powerline will be constructed running up the site to collect the renewable power generated by the wind turbines and feed it to the new connection substation at the south of the site. Up to three new collection substations will be located up the wind farm site to collect the power from the wind turbines and feed power into the new wind farm powerline.