



CULLERIN RANGE WIND FARM

Community Update - February 2006

Background

The **Cullerin Range Wind Farm** would contribute to the generation of renewable energy in NSW. It would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from existing coal fired power stations, and help to fix the shortfall in power generation capacity in the state. In an average year, it could supply clean renewable electricity for up to 12,000 average NSW homes, and reduce greenhouse gas emission in NSW by up to 9,500 tonnes per annum.

This newsletter updates you of the **Cullerin Range Wind Farm** proposal. A Community Update released in November 2005 gave background to the proposal, a copy is available from Taurus Energy on request.

The first public Open House held in Gunning on 17th November was well attended, with around 50 local residents providing feedback which is being incorporated into the proposal. Public consultation and specialist studies continued through December 2005 and January 2006.

Detailed studies of biodiversity (flora & fauna), heritage (European & Aboriginal), visual impacts and noise impacts have been largely completed, resulting in various changes to the proposal as discussed below. These studies will be available for public viewing on our website and at the next Open House.

Taurus Energy is now seeking further input to the proposal before lodging a Development Application with the NSW Department of Planning in March 2006.

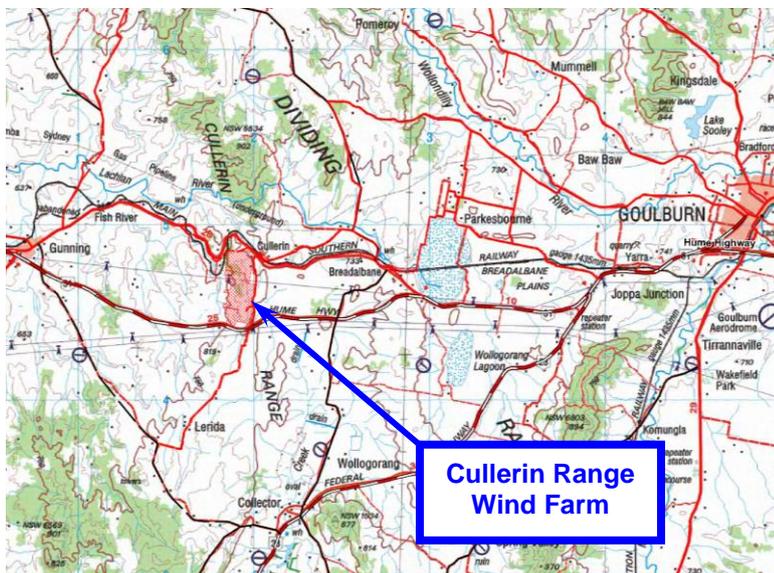
Cullerin Range Wind Farm



Figure 1 - Photomontage of proposed Cullerin Range Wind Farm, looking south-east from Cullerin Rd near "Mt Pleasant"

Where would it be located?

The wind farm will be located ~12km east of Gunning on the Cullerin Range north of the Hume Hwy.



Why at the Cullerin Range?

The Cullerin Range is one of only a handful of locations which has all the right conditions for a wind farm:

- ▶ wind speeds near the highest in NSW
- ▶ high clean energy potential
- ▶ remote from neighbouring houses
- ▶ existing powerline on site
- ▶ excellent road access
- ▶ interested local landowners

With careful planning, the wind farm can be built with positive impacts on the environment, and provide benefits to the local region.

The wind farm will be able to produce enough clean, renewable electricity for 10,000 to 12,000 homes.



Details of the proposal

What is proposed?

- ▶ up to 15 wind turbines, each with three blades up to 46m long mounted on a tubular steel tower up to 80m high;
- ▶ electrical connections between turbines generally using underground cable;
- ▶ access roads around the site, and minor upgrades to access via Lerida Rd Nth and Old Sydney Rd;
- ▶ a substation linking the turbines to the existing Country Energy powerline located on site, including an on-site control room and equipment storage facility.

Cullerin Range Wind Farm will connect to the national electricity network, with electricity primarily sent towards Yass or Goulburn.

Are we being listened to?

The proposal has been revised based on community feedback and results of site studies:

- ▶ Road access will now be concentrated along Lerida Rd (North) to minimize traffic through Breadalbane and Cullerin Rd.
- ▶ Three turbine placements at the northern end of the site have been relocated to the southern end of the site to minimize impacts on houses near Cullerin Rd. One turbine has been removed from the proposal.
- ▶ Taurus will (at its cost) provide surrounding residents with acoustic treatments and visual screening where the resident believes that they are being heavily impacted by the wind farm once it is operating.
- ▶ Taurus is considering ways to spread benefits more widely in the local community, and will allocate funds annually from the project for community initiatives in the area such as sporting and community facilities, weed and pest management, and land care funding.

Indicative timeframe

Nov 05 - Jan 06	Specialist studies & site assessment completed Government & Community consultation including 1st public Open-House
Feb 06 - Mar 06	2 nd public Open House presenting results of the studies and final proposal Environmental Assessment Report completed Development Application lodged
Mar 06 -	Public exhibition & final public comment Assessment by Department of Planning
2007	Proposed construction commencing mid 2007

How can you find out more?

What is the process?

Taurus Energy is now finalising its proposal for submission to NSW Department of Planning in March 2006.

Once submitted, the Development Application and Environmental Assessment Report will be put on public display for minimum of 30 days.

The Department of Planning and Taurus Energy will then consider any public submissions prior to the Department determining the Development Application.

Open House – 28th February 2006

Taurus Energy is holding a second open house in Gunning to present the proposal and answer any questions. Presentations and displays will focus on noise and visual aspects, with photomontages showing what the wind farm would look like from various locations.

- DATE:** Tuesday 28th February 2006
WHEN : between 3pm & 7pm, drop in any time
WHERE: Shire Hall, Copeland St, Gunning

Project updates – register interest

Updates will be available on our website www.taurusenergy.com.au or register for further updates below. We will alert the local media as well, so please watch your local papers.

Copies of the specialist reports will be available on our website around a week before the Open House, or if you contact us directly we can send a CD including the reports. Paper copies will be available for viewing at the Open House.

Having your say on the project

Taurus Energy is keen to continue incorporating comments and feedback from the community in planning the Cullerin Range Wind Farm.

Email us: CullerinRange@taurusenergy.com.au

Write to us: Cullerin Range Wind Farm
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