

# Bowmans Creek Wind Farm

Project Update

October 2021



## Location



## Thank you

Thank you to all those members of the community and other interested stakeholders who have engaged with us on this project so far.

We appreciate the feedback we have received through community information sessions, the Community Consultation Committee, direct correspondence and submissions on the proposal.

This input has played an important role in the final proposed wind turbine layout and overall project design.

## Response to EIS submissions

Submissions were received from several government agencies and many members of the public during the public exhibition period of the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Epuron's response to submissions is now available on the NSW Government's Major Projects Portal and includes two reports; a Submissions Report and an Amendment Report.

The Submissions Report and accompanying appendices respond to the issues raised such as noise, visual amenity, biodiversity impacts and concerns about Aboriginal cultural heritage and traffic.

A number of changes to the project have also been proposed in response to the issues raised to further mitigate and minimise environmental impacts. The revisions result in a net decrease in the area to be disturbed and an overall improvement in environmental and community outcomes. The changes are detailed in the Amendment Report and include:

- Removal of four wind turbines, reducing the layout from 60 to 56 wind turbines;
- Re-siting of three wind turbines, and minor adjustments to the siting of a number of other wind turbines;
- Removal and relocation of site access tracks, resulting in a net reduction of 15 km;
- A net reduction of 10 km in underground power reticulation;
- A net reduction of 14 km in overhead power reticulation; and
- Reduction of the overall footprint by approximately 98 hectares.

For a map of the revised layout please see overleaf.

Both reports and accompanying appendices are available on the project's profile page in the NSW Government's Major Projects Portal: [mpweb.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/11691](https://mpweb.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/11691)

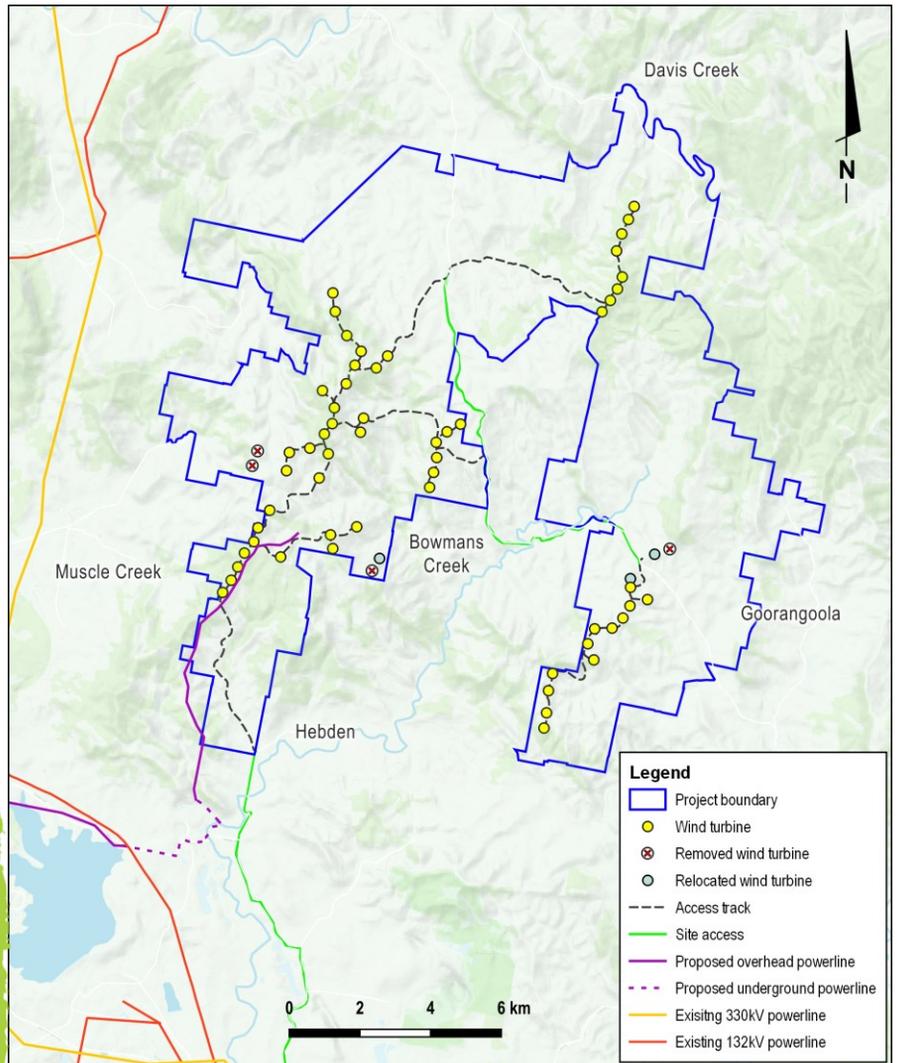
The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment will now assess the proposal and refer its recommendation to the Independent Planning Commission for a decision.

## Planning and assessment

The project is State significant development and subject to rigorous assessment by the NSW Government. It is also a controlled action under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* so will be assessed under the bilateral agreement between the NSW and Commonwealth Governments. Below are the key steps in the planning and assessment process.

- 1 Site selection
- 2 Initial concept and consultation
- 3 Scoping Report submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
- 4 Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued by DPIE
- 5 Studies, assessments, finalising site design
- 6 Development application (DA) and EIS lodged with DPIE
- 7 DA and EIS on public exhibition
- 8 Responses to public submissions
- WE ARE HERE**  
Assessment by DPIE
- 9 DPIE recommendation and draft conditions of consent - referred to Independent Planning Commission (IPC)
- 10 Review and determination by IPC

## Revised proposed layout with 56 wind turbines



### Key benefits

**JOBs:** Approximately 150 jobs during the 18-24 month construction period and up to 15 ongoing jobs for operation.

**ECONOMIC BOOST:** A boost of approximately of \$114 M to the regional economy, benefitting local and regional services, contractors and businesses.

**COMMUNITY FUND:** A proposed community fund of \$3,000 per constructed turbine per annum, amounting to \$168,000 each year for the life of the project, to be invested into community projects and initiatives.

**CLEAN ENERGY:** Approximately 347 megawatts of renewable energy for the NSW grid, putting further downward pressure on wholesale electricity prices and generating enough clean electricity to power 145,000 homes and reduce annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 810,000 tonnes per year.

**MORE:** Sustainable income for involved landowners, a benefit sharing program for other neighbouring landowners with a property up to 5 km from a wind turbine, road upgrades and proposed measures that are likely to result in an improvement to biodiversity in the area over the long term.

### More information

Website: [bowmanscreekwindfarm.com.au](http://bowmanscreekwindfarm.com.au) or scan QR code:

Register for updates: [epuron.com.au/mailling-list-details](http://epuron.com.au/mailling-list-details)

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