

# St Patricks Plains Wind Farm

Project Update

November 2021



## Location



The site proposed for St Patricks Plains Wind Farm, south-east of Miena, is located within Tasmania's Midlands Renewable Energy Zone (REZ).

The Midlands REZ is one of three zones in Tasmania identified by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) as optimal for new projects to support Tasmania's renewable energy growth and meet the state's world-leading renewable energy target.

The site has strong, consistent winds, is made up of large private landholdings and includes a powerline with available capacity, making it ideally located for wind energy generation.

## Noise briefings

The St Patricks Plains Wind Farm project team is hoping to hold noise assessment briefings and a public noise information session in February 2022.

The public noise information session will be held at the Steppes Hall and details will be advertised in the next update.

Briefings will also be held specifically for residents and owners of properties located to the east and west of the wind farm site, in Flintstone, Arthurs Lake Road, Wilburville, Shannon and Penstock. Please note these briefings will not be open to the public and places are limited. To register your interest in attending please email the project team (details overleaf). Attendees will be notified directly of the details as soon as the briefings are confirmed.

All briefings and the public information session will be attended by an independent specialist from Marshall Day Acoustics.

We appreciate these briefings have been delayed for some time due to travel restrictions and border closures. Epuron sincerely thanks the community for its understanding and patience.

## New research findings

Results from an independent university study published in October found that residents who live within 10km of a wind farm do not appear to experience any measurable impact in their sleep from wind turbine noise. The study found they did not experience higher levels of sleep disturbance and were more likely to have their sleep disturbed by other causes and noise sources. Another lab based study also found that wind farm noise did not appear to affect sleep patterns.

The findings are part of the ongoing Wind Farm Noise Study by researchers at the Adelaide Institute for Sleep Health, part of the Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute: Sleep Health at Flinders University. More information on the study, which is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, is available at: [flinders.edu.au/adelaide-institute-sleep-health/research-projects/wind-farm-noise-study](https://flinders.edu.au/adelaide-institute-sleep-health/research-projects/wind-farm-noise-study)

To receive email updates register at [epuron.com.au/mailling-list-details/](https://epuron.com.au/mailling-list-details/)

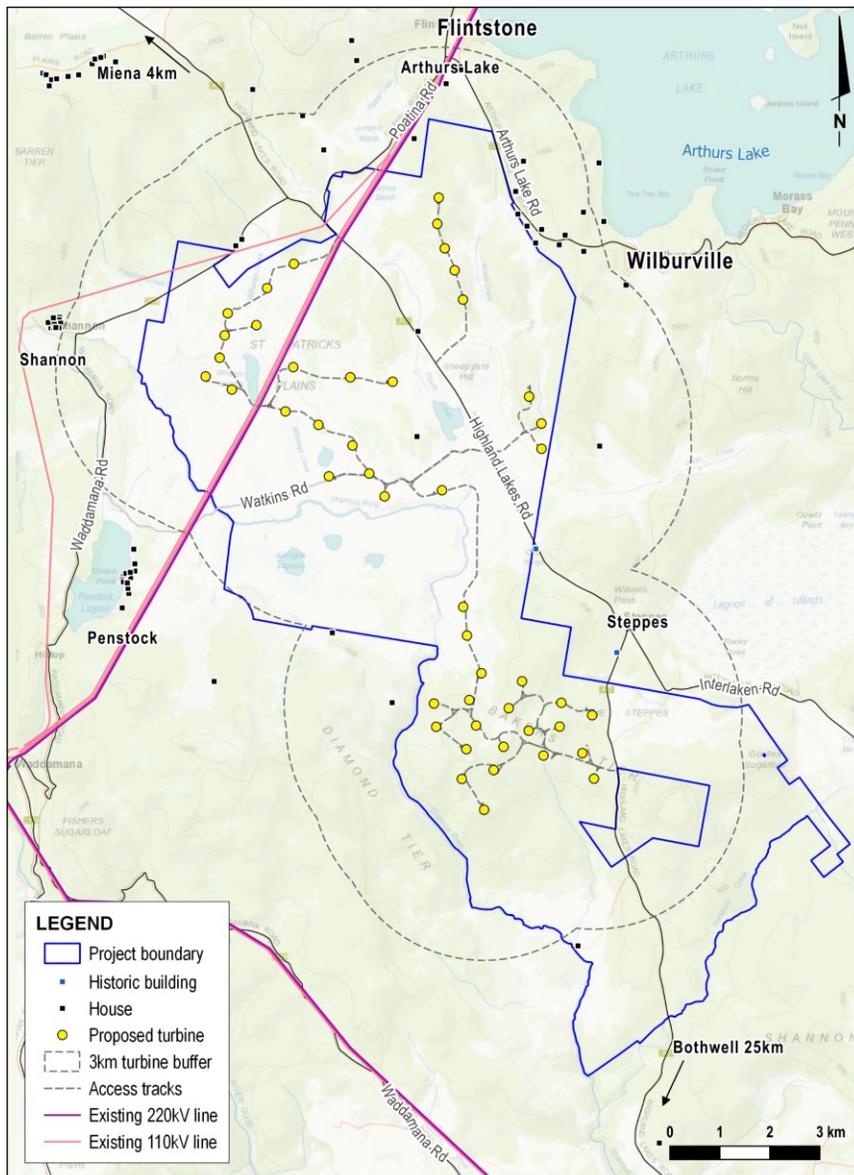
## St Patricks Plains Wind Farm planning and assessment process

- 1 Site selection and preliminary investigations
- 2 Referral for review under the Commonwealth EPBC Act
- 3 EPBC Act referral decision: controlled action
- 4 Notice of Intent (NOI) lodged with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Tasmania
- 5 Project Specific Guidelines for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued by the EPA

**WE ARE HERE** Studies, assessments, finalising site design

- 7 Development application (DA) and EIS submitted to Central Highlands Council
- 8 DA and EIS referred by Council to the EPA
- 9 Preliminary assessment by Council and the EPA
- 10 DA and EIS on exhibition for public submissions
- 11 Responses to public submissions and requests for additional information from stakeholders (if required)
- 12 Assessment by the EPA Board
- 13 Determination by the EPA Board and approval conditions provided to Council and the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE)
- 14 Determination by DAWE
- 15 Assessment by Council
- 16 Determination by Council

## St Patricks Plains Wind Farm proposed site layout



The current proposed design for the wind farm involves 47 wind turbines

### Next steps

Specialist reports are being finalised and Epuron is working on the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). After the EIS has been lodged and accepted by the Environment Protection Authority and Central Highlands Council it will go on public exhibition.

### Thank you

Thank you to all those members of the community who have engaged with us on this project. We appreciate the input, and also the enthusiasm shown by the local petition of support. We will continue to work with the community to address any concerns and maximise the local benefits of the project.

#### Project contacts

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