

Welcome to our latest project update



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Street Stall in Uralla

On Friday May 3rd we held a street stall in Uralla, outside the Alternate Root Cafe, to share information about the proposed wind farm project with the Uralla community. We had around 50 locals stop by to chat and share a coffee with us. We presented poster boards and handouts describing the project layout, development timeline, the community benefit fund, and an update about the proposed transport route. It was great to see Mayor Robert Bell who stopped by to chat with the project team.

We found everyone was eager to hear about the project and we received some great feedback. We would like to thank the Alternate Root Cafe for hosting us and supplying a steady stream of coffees!

Voluntary Planning Agreement

The WinterbourneWind Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) has now been endorsed! Uralla Shire Council endorsed the VPA at its meeting on 8 May 2024 and Walcha Council endorsed the VPA at its meeting on 26 June 2024.

Under the VPA, WinterbourneWind will provide money annually to a Community Benefit Fund (CBF), and each Council will manage allocation of the funds to community projects, services and infrastructure. Community advisory committees will be established to make recommendations to Council about the kinds of projects and services the community wants to invest in.

The funds will be split 90% to the Walcha community and 10% to the Uralla Shire community, which matches the relative geographic and infrastructure split of the proposed project within each Local Government Area.

WinterbourneWind will provide \$1,000,000 to the CBF when the project achieves financial commitment, and \$750,000 annually to the CBF from the start of commercial operations through to project decommissioning (based on a delivered project up to 600 MW capacity). For every megawatt over 600 MW built, we will contribute an extra \$1,000 per MW annually to the CBF. The annual payment will be adjusted for inflation according to the Consumer Price Index.

We look forward to providing funding for local infrastructure, facilities and services that will support the existing and future population and will contribute to greater amenity for the Walcha and Uralla communities.



Significant Benefits from On-Site Quarry

WinterbourneWind is proposing a temporary, on-site quarry as part of the project application. The sole purpose of the quarry will be to supply raw materials to the wind farm project.

The quarry would be located on a small parcel of land within the existing project area, adjacent to the eastern end of Bark Hut Road (refer image below).

The proposed quarry site including the pit and processing area would cover approx 12 ha, while the pit would be up to 20 m deep. The quarry would operate under an Environmental Protection license issued by the NSW Environmental Protection Agency.

The quarry is expected to produce multiple products required to support construction of the wind farm, including road base products required for creation of access tracks and hardstands, coarse rubble and crushed rock products required for drainage mitigation, as well as products for use in public road upgrades.

Rehabilitation

Following the completion of the quarrying operations, the site will be rehabilitated in consultation with the landowner. The quarry pit will be re-profiled to create a safe and stable landform which could be utilised as a farm dam. Disturbed or compacted areas of the site will be rehabilitated in accordance with the landowner's requirements.

Project Water Use

WinterbourneWind is working with landowners to assess potential sources of groundwater for use in the Project for earthworks, dust suppression and concrete batching. To date, investigative drilling has located extensive and high-yielding groundwater resources across the Project Area. Pump testing of investigative bores indicates that these groundwater resources recharge at rates capable of easily sustaining the expected Project water demand, while not adversely affecting groundwater levels. Over the coming months, WinterbourneWind will continue the investigative groundwater drilling program to provide data to support the process of licencing groundwater bores for use in the Project.

Key Benefits



- **Significant reduction in heavy vehicle movements**, the quarry and groundwater bores will allow for on-site sourcing of the majority of materials and water required for the project which will significantly reduce heavy vehicle movements on the regional road network. This directly addresses community concerns raised in the EIS.



- **Significant reduction in haulage distance.** The on-site quarry will reduce haulage distance on the regional road network by nearly 10 million km travelled (based on 1 Mt supply).



- **Significant reduction in risk**, by removing tens of thousands of heavy vehicles from the roads, there will be a significant improvement in overall road safety.



- **A smaller haulage fleet is required**, since haulage distances are smaller, vehicles are free for use on other projects in the local area.



- **Reduces demand of existing quarries**, ensuring the wind farm is not contributing to material scarcity in the regional construction sector.

