

Welcome to our latest project update



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Project status and next steps

Following submission of the **Response to Request for Information** to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in November 2025, the Winterbourne Wind Farm project team is now responding to additional comments from Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (CPHR) and Transport for NSW (TfNSW) in respect of biodiversity and transport issues, respectively.

The current work involves preparation of an updated **Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR)** to address residual comments from CPHR and an updated **Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA)** to address comments related to transport of oversize and overmass (OSOM) loads from the Port of Newcastle to the project site.

Additionally, the project team is addressing comments raised by Walcha Council in respect of the public roads proposed to be used during construction of the project.

The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has already referred the proposed wind farm project to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC). Subject to resolving the CPHR, TfNSW and Council comments, we anticipate that DPHI will formalise its Assessment Report for the project, leading to an IPC hearing to be held in late 2026 or early 2027.



Estimated Project Timeline

2024

SEP

Submissions Report/Amendment Report

A Submissions Report was lodged which documented our responses to comments raised during exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). An Amendment Report was also lodged which documented changes made to the project to reduce impacts, improve outcomes and respond to concerns raised.

2025

JUNE

Submissions Report No. 2

A second Submissions Report was lodged which documented responses to comments raised during public exhibition of the Amendment Report.

NOV

Response to Request for Information

In response to additional information requested, WinterbourneWind lodged a Response to Request for Information with DPHI in November 2025, including an updated BDAR and TIA in response to agency queries.

2026

WE ARE HERE

MID

Response to Request for Information

WinterbourneWind is currently preparing additional information in response to comments from CPHR, TfNSW and Walcha Council.

LATE

Assessment and Determination

DPHI will complete its Assessment Report, and the project will proceed to the IPC for determination.

2027

EARLY

Development Approval

Development consent expected.

MID

Grid Connection

Offer to connect expected.

LATE

Estimated start of construction

Subject to project approval.



Current work activity

Construction Workforce Accommodation

As mentioned in our previous Project Update, WinterbourneWind is continuing to explore several options for future workforce accommodation. We recognise that this is a critical issue for the local community.

WinterbourneWind submitted a development application to Walcha Council in February 2026 to redevelop the Walcha Caravan Park to provide an accommodation facility with 81 rooms and 74 parking spaces. The proposal was placed on public exhibition in March, and we are now preparing responses to comments raised in respect of tourism, social amenity, stormwater and other matters. We are also working on a revised proposal which we will lodge in the near future.

The revised proposal will provide accommodation for workers, while continuing to operate as a tourist accommodation and caravan facility. The presence of workers in town is expected to support local businesses through increased demand for goods and services. Following completion of the wind farm construction, the upgraded facility will remain as a long-term legacy asset for Walcha, providing improved visitor accommodation and supporting the local tourism economy.

WinterbourneWind has also been discussing a potential workforce accommodation facility with Uralla Shire Council. We understand that the Council is supportive of the opportunities for local businesses and is eager to create a legacy benefit for the Uralla community. The next step is to identify Council-owned land that can support such a facility in terms of road access, water, wastewater and electricity. We anticipate that such a facility could be permitted and constructed within

approximately 18 months and could be sized according to the requirements of not just the WinterbourneWind project but potentially other renewable energy infrastructure proponents.

Public Road Upgrades

WinterbourneWind has prepared detailed design packages for the upgrade of public roads in Walcha proposed to be used during project construction. These design packages were provided to Walcha Council in late 2025, and we are currently revising the designs based on Council feedback. Proposed upgrades include areas of road widening, pavement upgrades, culvert and drainage improvements, and signage requirements. We are working closely with Walcha Council staff to ensure the roads required for the project are suitable for the expected construction traffic and the safety of all road users.



Project Design

In addition to public road upgrade design, WinterbourneWind has been progressing detailed civil and electrical design of the proposed wind farm. Civil design includes specification of internal access tracks and wind turbine foundation design. Electrical design includes underground cable specification, substation layouts, earthing requirements and protection design.

In the community

Walcha Show 2026

WinterbourneWind enjoyed another year at the Walcha Show. This was the seventh time that we have attended the event, and we were grateful for the many people who stopped by our stall over the two days to say hello and learn about the project. We had poster boards providing information about the Project, the Community Benefit Fund, workforce accommodation, soil testing, jobs & skills and wind turbine generator installation.



We are committed to keeping the lines of communication open as we move forward, and we will continue working closely with the community to ensure the project is a win for everyone.