

Liverpool Range Wind Farm

Newsletter
Edition

3

September
2020

Tilt Renewables is moving forward with an application to modify some aspects of the Approved Project.

Optimisation studies on the Liverpool Range Wind Farm have progressed, with a range of technical studies nearing completion that look at enhancing the overall design and construction planning of the Project. We intend to lodge a Modification Application with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) to make the proposed changes to the Approved Project in the first half of 2021.

This September newsletter outlines what we will be doing from now until the Modification Application is submitted, specifically around upcoming consultation activities under the current COVID-19 restrictions.

We want to hear from you about the ways in which you would like to be consulted on the proposed modifications before the Modification Application is submitted. Please read on to find out how you can provide input.

Keeping in touch

If you have any questions or feedback about the Project, benefit sharing initiatives or possible business and employment opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone: 1800 WE TILT (938 458) or by email: liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com

Project Snapshot

Location

East of Coolah and north of Cassilis, NSW

Turbines

Up to 267 (Approved Project)

Installed capacity

About 1000 MW

Project investment

\$1.5 billion

Project status

Planning and environmental approvals received, Modification Application yet to be lodged.

Environmental benefits

The Approved Project will provide enough clean energy to power more than 500,000 homes and save 2.3 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of removing 750,000 cars from our roads.

Economic benefits

A Community Enhancement Fund will operate for the Project, providing \$3000 per wind turbine, per year for the life of the Project for community investment. The Project will also generate a massive increase in revenue for local businesses including (but not limited to) accommodation providers, hospitality businesses such as cafes and hotels, service stations and fencing contractors.

Employment

Up to 800 direct jobs during construction and up to 47 full-time staff during the 25 plus years of operation.

Proposed changes to the Approved Project

Liverpool Range Wind Farm received planning approval for up to 267 turbines in March 2018, and since then there have been advancements in wind turbine technology. The latest turbines, while larger, are more efficient, meaning the Project could be built with fewer turbines while powering more homes with clean energy.

The optimisation work undertaken since late 2019 has identified changes to the Approved Project that would allow the Project to be built and operated more efficiently.



More clean energy for Australian homes and businesses resulting from an increase in generation capacity from approximately 1,000 MW to a potential capacity of approximately 1,300 MW at full build. This could power around 644,700 homes – a potential increase of 149,000 compared to the Approved Project.



Producing more clean energy means more **carbon emission savings** – up from 2.3 million tonnes to over 2.9 million tonnes per year. That's equivalent to taking 960,000 cars off the road each year.



Energy security as part of the energy transition – at full development, the Liverpool Range Wind Farm could replace around 75% of the total production capacity of the Liddell Power Station (1,680 MW).



A **reduction in maximum number of turbines** where we are currently considering a reduction of 41 turbines from 267 to 226 (subject to final design optimisation studies).
Increase in maximum blade tip height from 165 metres to 250 metres (increase of 85 m).



Refinements to the turbine layout, access tracks and supporting infrastructure, to provide greater certainty about potential impacts and how the Project will look and operate. Minor adjustment to the **Transmission Line** alignment.



Addition of a **Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)** either at the network connection at Ulan or within the wind farm site.



Modification of the **Over-dimensional (OD) haulage route**, including road and intersection upgrades, between the Port of Newcastle and the Project site to enable the transport of longer blades.



Potential updates to **native vegetation clearance** thresholds to account for road upgrades and optimised design/layout.

Photo below: Views of the Liverpool Ranges.

Photo right: Pinnacle Lookout, Coolah Tops National Park.



Community consultation during current COVID-19 restrictions

We are preparing a schedule of community consultation and engagement to discuss the proposed modifications to the Project. We understand the importance of face-to-face consultation, however under current COVID-19 restrictions, face-to-face community drop-in sessions are not considered appropriate. As we are headquartered in Melbourne, we also have travel limitations.

Despite these challenges we want to ensure the community is kept well-informed about the proposed changes to the Approved Project and to provide the opportunity to provide feedback prior to lodgement of the Modification Application and throughout the post-lodgement period. We will endeavour to facilitate one-on-one appointments with community members upon request. In addition, we are proposing the following virtual engagement leading up to lodgement of the Modification Application in the first half of 2021:



Online engagement portal – please visit the one we built for the Rye Park Wind Farm Project www.informryeparkwvf.com

- A visual platform such as this allows community members to explore the proposed modifications using online tools such as interactive maps, photomontages and visual comparisons, FAQs, navigable document libraries and tables
- The portal will also allow for live engagement, commenting and discussions



Presentation of information by our technical and specialist consultants



Online feedback forms



Phone calls by appointment



Postal packs – printed fact sheets, maps, technical information



Other – we'd love to hear from you! We will provide more detail on when and how we will be engaging with you on the Modification Application as the Project progresses.









We're proposing to dedicate a full month to circulate information on the proposed modifications to the Approved Project and gather your feedback. We are monitoring COVID-19 developments closely and will be in touch to confirm the month in due course.

Talk to us

We've created this [online form](#) for you to let us know how you'd like to be consulted. You can also call or email us your preference.

Environmental impact assessments that are being undertaken

We are nearing completion of the design optimisation process and a range of technical studies, and have kicked off discussions with key Project stakeholders. The range of technical studies include:

-  Aviation Impact Assessment
-  Biodiversity Assessment
-  Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment
-  Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
-  Noise Impact Assessment
-  Traffic Impact Assessment and Over-dimensional (OD) Route Assessment
-  Road Upgrade Assessment
-  Electromagnetic Interference Assessment
-  Shadow Flicker Assessment

The above-mentioned assessments have been undertaken to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with the Project and inform the Modification Application. The draft findings of these assessments will be shared as part of the consultation prior to lodgment of the Modification Application.

We are seeking your input as to which assessments you would like to hear specialists present on.

We are open to arranging presentations (online or in-person depending on the COVID-19 restrictions) from technical specialists so that you can hear directly their findings, where there is sufficient interest.

We've created [this online form](#) for you to provide feedback on what topics you are interested in. You can also call or email us your preferences, including preferred times for these presentations to occur. We will be in touch in due course to confirm dates and times of these activities.

Sign up and stay informed

It is important you are subscribed to our newsletter list to ensure you receive all Project updates and information. We also understand that not everyone uses email, so we will be working with local businesses to host Project information packs such as fact sheets and maps.

Subscribe to receive the newsletter by email or post, by contacting us at:

liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com



Modification Assessment Process

Below is a simple outline of the process that the Modification Application will be prepared, assessed and determined by:



Technical Studies (we are here)

Relevant studies have been undertaken to assess any potential impacts that may result from the Modified Project.



Consultation on Modification Application

We will discuss the proposed modifications with relevant government agencies and departments, councils, landowners and local communities, including traditional owners and Aboriginal Parties, to share information and understand any concerns. Feedback will be considered on the technical studies and Modification Application and in ongoing detailed design and construction planning.



Modification Application

Following community consultation and completion of technical studies, we expect to lodge a Letter of Intention to Modify the Approved Project to DPIE for their review and preliminary advice on matters that should be considered in the assessments (if not already covered off). At this point DPIE places the Project on their publicly accessible NSW Major Projects website. Following this, we will finalise a Modification Application Report and submit it to DPIE for assessment in the first half of 2021.



Public Exhibition

The Modification Application will be placed on public exhibition and submissions may be made in response to the Modification Application.



Response to Submissions Report (RTS)

If required, an RTS Report will be prepared to address issues raised during the Public Exhibition period.



DPIE Assessment

We expect that it will take around 6 - 12 months for the Modification Application to be assessed.



Approval / Refusal

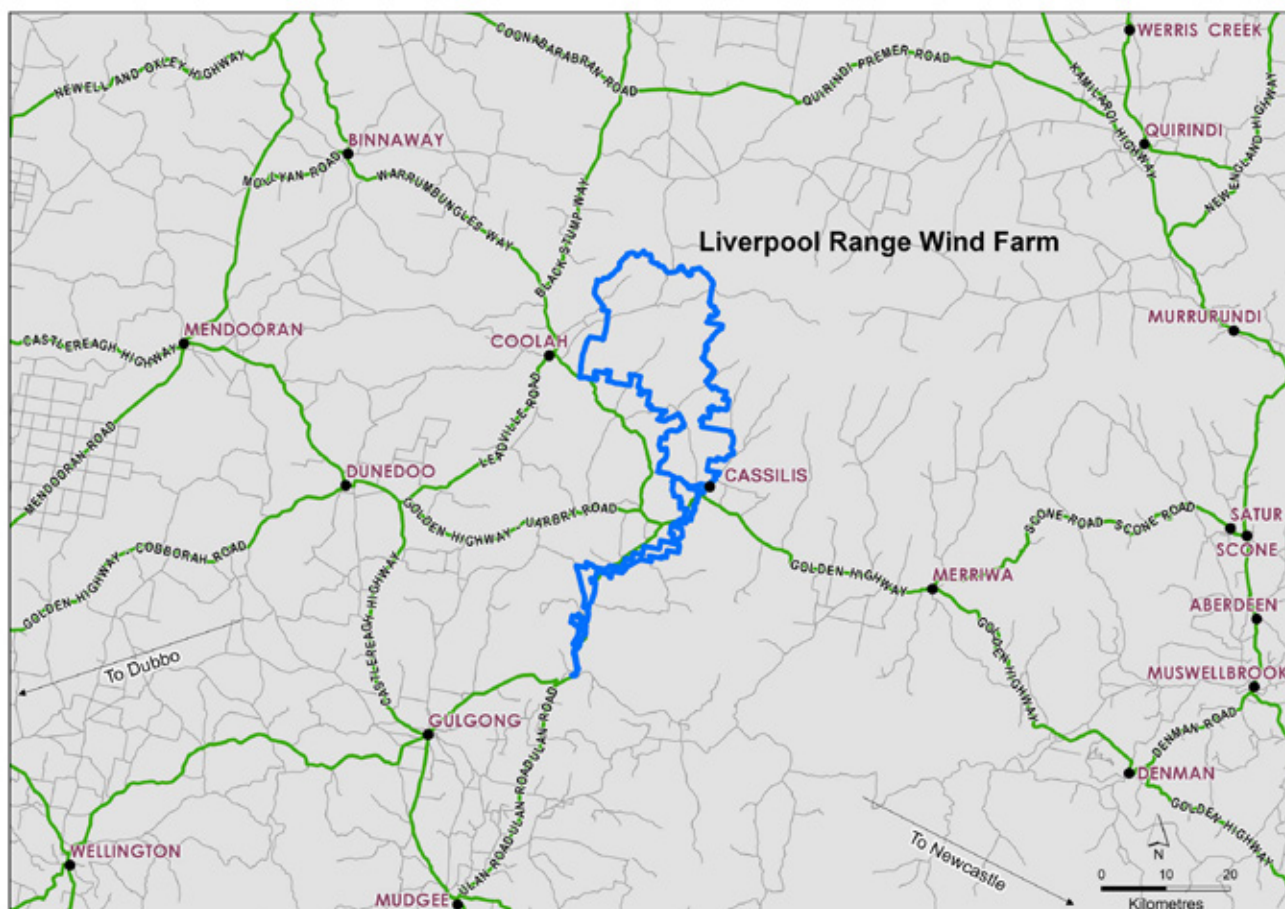
Following assessment, a decision will be made on the Modification Application.

We are available throughout the above process to discuss the final modification and environmental assessments, including during DPIE's assessment and formal submissions process.

Exact timeframes are not yet locked in. We will get in touch as soon as they are.



Project Location



— Project boundary



Community Consultative Committee

The Community Consultative Committee (CCC) plays an important role in engaging with the community and stakeholder groups and providing feedback from the community for consideration as part of the development.

So far in 2020, two CCC meetings have been held via videoconference under social distancing requirements due to COVID-19. One in March and one in August.

Meeting minutes can be found on the Project's webpage: www.liverpoolrangewindfarm.com.au

Sharing the benefits

Tilt Renewables is committed to open and honest dialogue with all stakeholders, with an aim to build and enhance community acceptance and trust in all projects and in the renewable energy industry as a whole.

We are committed to being a positive community member and are proud of our record for providing support to local communities that makes a real difference.

We are proud to be the 2020 recipient of the Clean Energy Council's Community Engagement Award for our Benefit Sharing Plan associated with our Dundonnell Wind Farm in Victoria.



Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA)

Tilt Renewables has entered into a VPA with Warrumbungle Shire and Upper Hunter Shire Councils for the Liverpool Range Wind Farm project. The objective of the VPA is to assist with funding for community enhancement and road maintenance projects in the area surrounding the Project site.

The total amount of development contribution per annum to the host councils will be the greater of:

- **\$3,000** (increased by CPI) per installed turbine per year, distributed to both Warrumbungle and Upper Hunter councils (77% for a Community Enhancement Fund (CEF) and 23% for a Road Maintenance Fund); or
- **\$100,000** as a minimum should the above calculation be lower than this amount prior to all the turbines being constructed.

A committee, made up of independent community members from both shires and council members, will be established to assist with the administration of the CEF prior to the commencement of construction, which is when the payment of the development contributions will commence.

The CEF will be allocated to short-listed grant applications received from the community. All grant applications must be able to demonstrate the nature of the public purpose likely to accrue to the community within 20km of a turbine or 5 km of a new powerline.

Benefit Sharing Plan

In addition to the VPA, Tilt Renewables is looking at other initiatives and contributions that would provide support for the local community as a result of the development.

We have started conversations with various community groups to cultivate an understanding of how Tilt Renewables can further contribute positively to projects in the community, with a particular focus on social inclusion, the arts, education, energy and health.

To help establish our presence in the community, we have already begun funding smaller initiatives. For instance, in late 2019, we sponsored the local theatre group, Octagon Players' production of Barbeque by Darryl Peebles. Contributions were also made to the Castlereagh Referee's Association and the Coolah Roos' Rugby Club.

We are all looking forward to discussing the Project and associated community benefit opportunities over the coming months. In the meantime, we welcome your ideas and invite you to contact us by email: liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com or on 1800 WE TILT (938 458)



Employment

A wind farm project brings many direct and indirect opportunities for employment to the region during both the construction phase and ongoing operations. Construction provides an economic boost for regional communities by increasing demand for local goods and services, such as accommodation, hotels, restaurants and cafes. We are committed to employing local people and buying local wherever possible.

Most regions have a range of businesses that may provide services to the construction of a wind farm. These include:

- Domestic scale electricians
- Transport operators
- Machine operators
- General labourers
- Quarries
- Concrete suppliers

Goods and Services Register

To register interest in providing goods or services for the Project, please visit www.liverpoolrangewindfarm.com.au and complete the linked form under the Employment section.



Get in touch.

If you have any queries about the project, the benefit sharing program or possible business and employment opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Web: www.liverpoolrangewindfarm.com.au

Email: liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com | **Phone:** 1800 WE TILT (938 458)

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