

Liverpool Range Wind Farm

HAPPY
New Year
from everyone at
Tilt Renewables
☆

Newsletter
Edition

8

February
2022

Tilt Renewables is moving forward with an application to modify some aspects of the approved wind farm project.

A lot of progress has been made on refining the proposed modifications to the approved Liverpool Range Wind Farm project since meeting with the community for drop-in consultation sessions in late-October 2021. We thank everyone who came along to the Coolah and Cassilis sessions or spoke with us over phone or email, providing valuable feedback and input on the Project.

This newsletter sets out a summary of consultation feedback, what we are proposing to lodge with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) in the coming weeks as well as a call out for nominations for the Community Consultative Committee (CCC). We will send out a notification to the community and project stakeholders once we have lodged the modification application.

Briefly, some background...

The Liverpool Range Wind Farm project 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.

Approved 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

Environmental benefits

The Approved Project will provide enough clean energy to power approximately 477,000 homes and save 2.1 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of removing 672,000 cars from our roads.

Economic benefits

The project will provide \$3000 per wind turbine, per year for the life of the Project for community investment. The Project will generate a massive increase in revenue for local accommodation and hospitality businesses, 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.

SIGN UP & STAY INFORMED

Please subscribe to the newsletter to ensure you receive all Project updates and information. Hover over the QR code or send us an email to subscribe. liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com



The key changes to the approved infrastructure layout are listed in the table below.

The changes relate mostly to the wind farm layout including turbine locations and access tracks, underground and overhead powerline alignments, and location of other ancillary infrastructure such as substations, concrete batching plants, construction compounds, site access points, permanent met masts, and operations and maintenance facilities. Only very minor changes relate to the transmission line alignment between the Golden Highway and the proposed connection point at Ulan.

WHAT'S CHANGING – QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Project component	Approved Project	Proposed Modified Project	Change
Maximum number of wind turbines	Up to 267	Up to 220	-47
Height of turbines (maximum blade tip height above ground level (AGL))	Up to 165 m	Up to 250 m	+85 m
Operations and maintenance (O&M) buildings	Up to 1	Up to 3	+2
Collector substations	Up to 4	Up to 7	+3
Connection substations (Switch yard)	1 (at Ulan)	1 (at Ulan)	No change
Over-size/over-mass (OSOM) Haulage Route	1 x route from Port of Newcastle - assuming ~69 m long blade as longest load only. Potential impacts further from project site were not assessed.	1 x route from Port of Newcastle - assuming 90 m long blade and 5 m tower section as longest, tallest and widest loads. All impacts between Port of Newcastle and site have been assessed.	Minor changes to route to avoid Maitland urban area, low-clearance bridge at Denman, and conflicts with private property and State road infrastructure.
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)	0	1	+1 (indicative capacity of 150 MW / 300 MWh)
330 kV Transmission Line Length	82,570 m	99,975 m	+17,405 m (mostly internal to the wind farm site)
Temporary Concrete Batch Plants	Up to 4	Up to 9 <i>Note: 23 potential locations identified - not all will be required</i>	+ 5
Temporary construction compounds/ laydown areas	6	Up to 9 <i>Note: 23 potential locations identified - not all will be required</i>	+3
Permanent Met Masts	Up to 10 at hub height	Up to 14 at hub height	+4
Development Corridor	12,391 ha	12,601 ha	+210 ha

OUTPUT BENEFITS

Project component	Approved Project	Modified Project	Change
Indicative generation capacity MW	Approx. 962 MW (assumed 3.6 MW turbine)	Approx. 1,320 MW (assumed 6 MW turbine)	+ 358 MW (37% increase)
GWh per year	Approximately 2,615 GWh	Approximately 3,630 GWh	Increase of approximately 1,015 GWh per year.
Average households powered per year	Approximately 477,000 households	Approximately 662,000 households	Increase of approximately 185,000 households
Greenhouse gas benefits	Approximately 2.1 million tonnes of CO ² savings per year	Approximately 2.9 million tonnes of CO ² savings per year	Increase of approximately 800,000 tonnes of CO ² savings per year
Equivalent number of cars taken off the road per year	Approximately 672,000 cars per year	Approximately 933,000 cars per year	Increase of approximately 261,000 cars per year

Review the detailed fact sheets, explore the modified project or watch the webinars by scanning this QR code.



Consultation – what we did

Throughout the design review and layout optimisation process undertaken throughout 2019-21, we have continued to consult with key stakeholders and the local community in relation to the proposed modifications.

The purpose of pre-lodgement consultation is to get feedback on the proposed modifications to the Development Consent, prior to lodgement of an application with DPIE.

Pre-lodgement consultation activities were undertaken during the week commencing 25 October 2021. Given the travel and gathering restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we contracted C7EVEN Communications based in Tamworth and Farm Renewables consultant Karin Stark of Narromine to facilitate face-to-face consultation at the drop-in sessions. C7EVEN and Karin directed attendees to available printed and electronic information and wherever possible, connected attendees with members of the project team who were based in Melbourne.

The consultation sessions were delivered through a combination of channels including face-to-face information drop-in hubs, virtual one-to-one's, webinars, street canvassing and leave-behind materials in the local post offices.

A comprehensive suite of high-quality consultation material was presented at each of the drop-in sessions, and was made available on the Project website. The material included the following:

- Infrastructure and transport maps
- High-definition photomontages
- Project summary posters
- Environmental assessment fact sheets
- General fact sheets
- Feedback forms

Additional supporting and interactive consultation material on the Project website includes:

- A dedicated website offering an immersive exploration of the Proposed Modifications, including sliding comparative views of the Approved vs. Modified Project (scan the QR code to take a deep-dive!) www.modification.liverpoolrangewindfarm.com.au
- 180-degree spherical interactive photomontages
- An interactive online map
- Downloadable Project fact sheets
- Webinar recordings



Attendees were able to provide feedback on the Proposed Modifications via the following methods:

- feedback forms (a total of 5 feedback forms were received at the community sessions and via e-forms online)
- verbally at a community drop-in session or by telephone
- via the Q&A sessions during the webinars
- written feedback via email or letter

Consultation – what we heard

A total of 86 individual consultations took place across these engagement channels and 52 different topics were discussed with the community during the week. Most conversations and feedback from community centred on traffic impacts associated with construction and operation of the wind farm (23%). Community benefit topics, including feedback on the Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) accounted for 9% of conversations, as well as Goods and Service opportunities for local businesses also at 9%. Noise and visual impacts accounted for 7% and the remaining 45% of conversations were centred on a range of matters including the external transmission line alignment, biodiversity impacts, and general economic impacts - notably around business, accommodation and employment opportunities.

EXAMPLE OF TYPICAL FEEDBACK RECEIVED DURING CONSULTATION SESSIONS

The below table represents some of the key topics that came up during the consultation sessions and how we are responding to them in the Modification Application Report.

Due to the extensive optimisation work, including consultation undertaken prior to the drop-in sessions, and careful consideration of potential issues that could arise, no material changes to the proposed infrastructure layout were required to address the questions and concerns raised by the community.

The Modification Application Report will include responses to all feedback received during the pre-lodgement consultation sessions.

Topic	Response
Native bird and bat impacts	<p><i>Concern was raised about potential impacts to bird and bat species, including eagles, that forage and nest in the nearby Coolah Tops National Park.</i></p> <p>A Bird and Bat Strike Risk Assessment has been undertaken as part of the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. The Bird and Bat Strike Risk Assessment has been informed by substantial bird and bat utilisation surveys undertaken over multiple years and across all seasons. In addition, a Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP) will be developed for the Modified Project that will set out detailed mitigation measures to minimise impacts to bird and bat species that are at risk of collision with turbines.</p>
Visual impact of turbines	<p><i>Concerns were raised about the efficacy of screen planting to mitigate visual impact of the wind turbines and potential visual impact along the Gundare Road Loop scenic drive.</i></p> <p>A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) has been prepared for the Modified Project by suitably qualified and experienced technical specialists, in accordance with the NSW Visual Assessment Bulletin. The VIA employed a range of widely accepted methodologies and tools to holistically assess potential visual impact from Non-associated resident locations and key public viewpoint locations. The VIA compares the Approved Project and Modified Project turbine and associated infrastructure layouts, includes a detailed discussion on mitigation measures such as screen and supplementary planting, and includes an assessment of the Gundare Road Loop scenic drive including a photomontage near the intersection of Black Stump Way and Gundare Road.</p>
Operational Noise	<p><i>Concerns that noise from the wind turbines would cause sleep disturbance at nearby Non-associated residences, and could impact the amenity of the nearby Coolah Tops National Park in particular for campers.</i></p> <p>A Predictive Noise Impact Assessment (PNIA) has been prepared for the Modified Project. The PNIA includes predicted noise levels associated with the operation of wind turbines at all surrounding residences and at high use areas within the National Park such as campgrounds and lookouts.</p> <p>The PNIA concludes the highest predicted noise level from the operation of the 220 wind turbines at a Non-associated residence is 34 dB(A) (at dwellings G6-2, C5-10 and D7-6), and is therefore compliant with the applicable noise criteria. The predicted noise levels are well below the recommended day-evening-night sound pressure level of 45 dB Lden specified in the World Health Organisation (WHO) noise guidelines, and unlikely to cause sleep disturbance.</p> <p>The PNIA also concludes that the highest predicted noise levels at lookouts, campgrounds and historic locations within the National Park are less than 35 dB(A). This is consistent with the noise level assigned to protect residential living amenity during the night and is less than the noise level which may be expected from other naturally occurring sources such as wind in trees, birds and insects at the same locations.</p>
Disruptions due to public road upgrades	<p><i>Concerns were raised about traffic delays resulting from the anticipated public road upgrades, and disruption mitigation plans for State Forest Road which provides vehicular access to Coolah Tops National Park.</i></p> <p>During the construction of public road upgrades and on-site wind farm works, particularly in the vicinity of State Forest Road, it is anticipated that there is expected to be some disruption to road users as is typical with any major project. Tilt Renewables will work closely with relevant landholders, including NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), to develop reasonable feasible mitigation measures to minimise disruptions and delays.</p> <p>The anticipated traffic movements and associated scheduling and mitigation measures will be detailed in the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) that will be prepared for the Modified Project prior to commencement of construction, in accordance with the Development Consent.</p>

Attendance profile

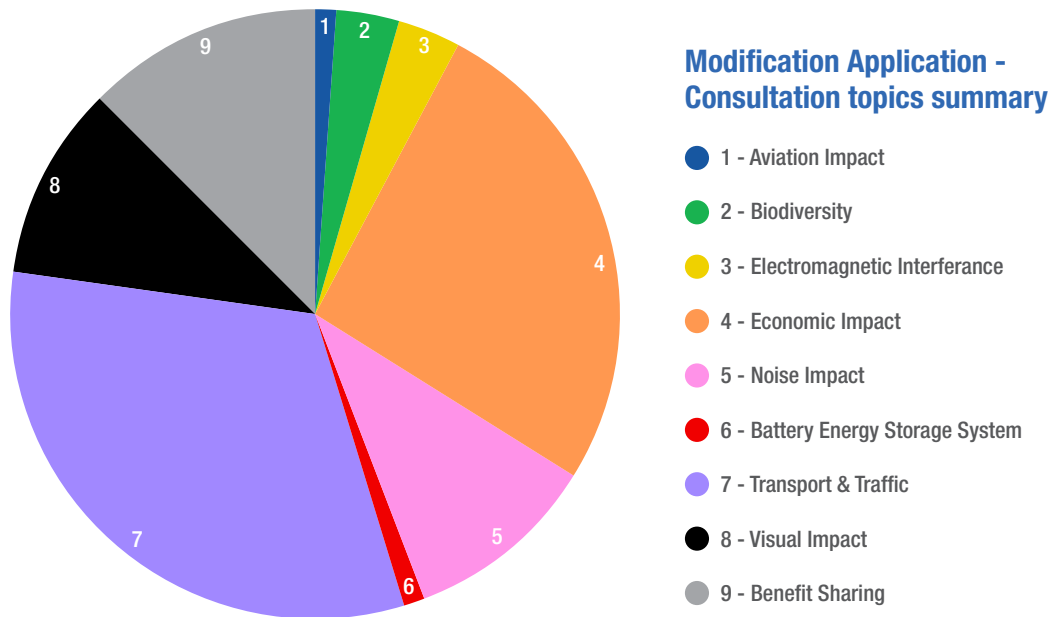
50 At least **80%** of attendees were aged 50+

♀ **52% female** and

♂ **48% male**

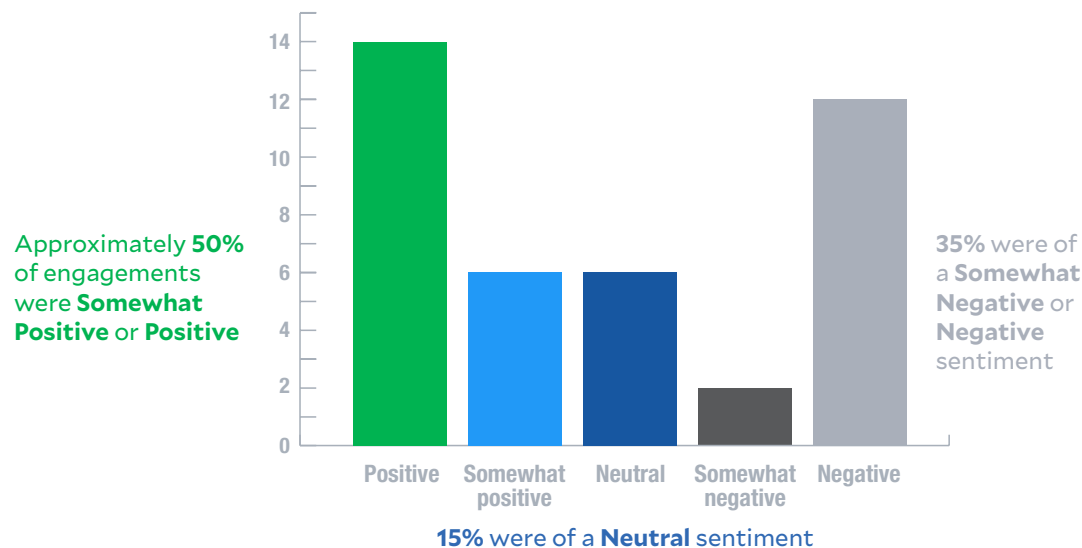
📍 **Most visitors were from the local region**, however some visitors to the Coolah session were from out of town, owned property in the region or were from the renewable energy industry.

Liverpool Range Wind Farm Consultation Sentiment

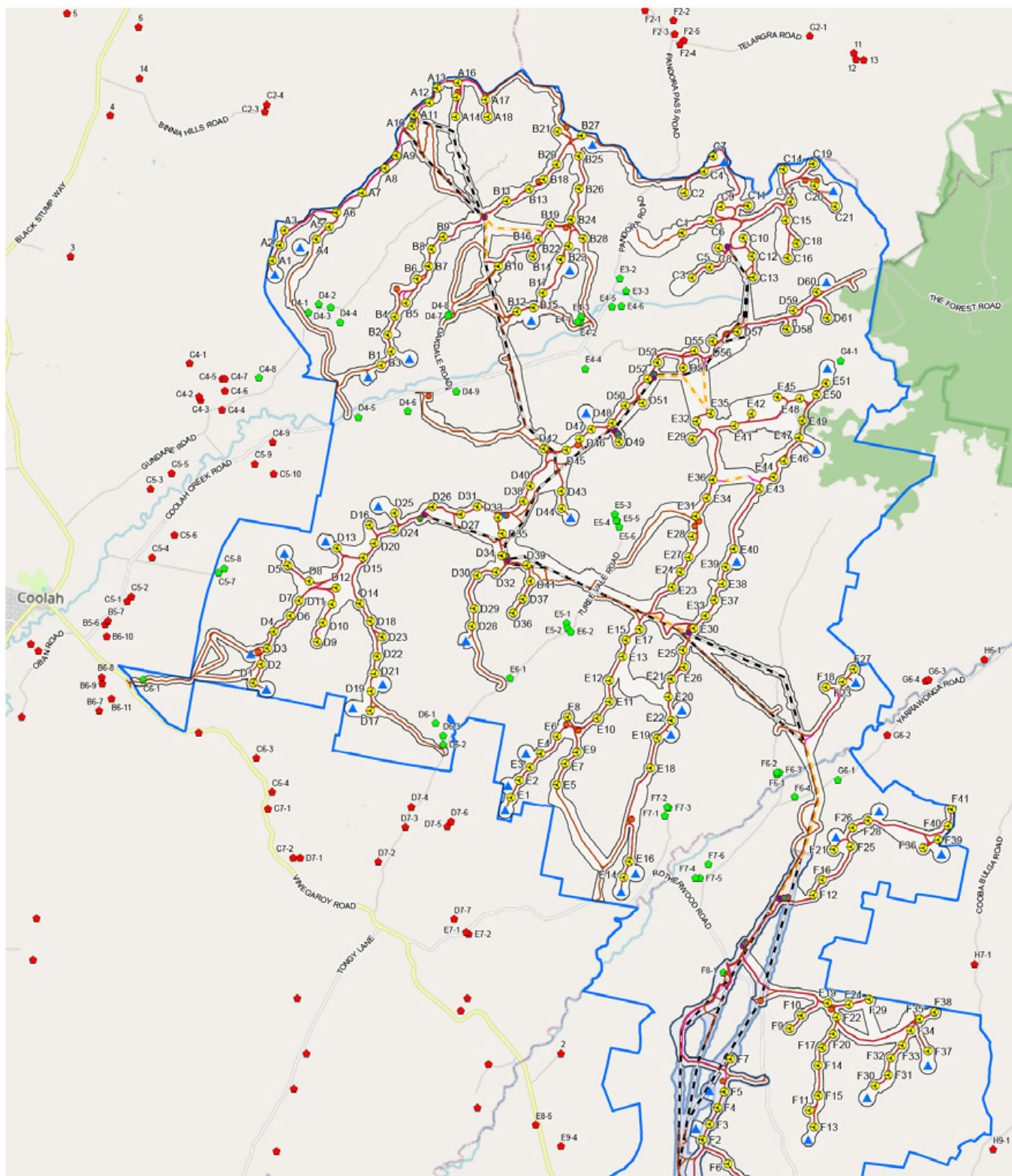


The sentiment from the consultation sessions was generally positive with many residents and locals keen to see the Project commence and see the planned community benefits start to flow in. Many noted a general disengagement with the Project due to the ongoing delays in construction of the approved project and it having been around for 14 years.

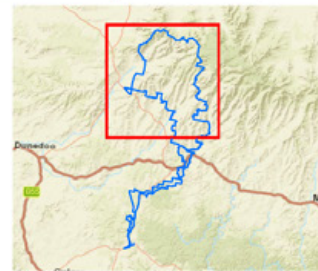
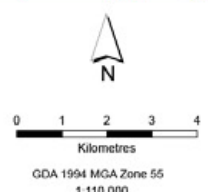
Positive feedback was received on the quality and quantity of consultation resources available, as well as the friendly and informative approach that we delivered.



Liverpool Range Wind Farm Modified Development Layout



- Legend**
- Modified Site Boundary
 - Modified Development Corridor - Wind Farm
 - Modified Development Corridor - External Transmission Line
 - Indicative Turbine Layout
 - Potential Permanent Met Mast Location
 - Access Track
 - Underground Reticulation Cabling (Indicative 33 kV)
 - Potential Overhead Cabling (Indicative 33 kV)
 - Transmission Line (Indicative 330 kV)
 - Transgrid Transmission Line (330 kV)
 - Potential Construction Compound, Laydown Area, Batch Plant Location
 - Potential Transgrid Upgrade Works
 - Potential O&M Facility Location
 - Potential Substation Location
 - Potential Battery (BESS) Location
 - Residences**
 - Associated
 - Non-Associated



Note1. All optional infrastructure locations are shown.
 Note2. All infrastructure locations are indicative only.
 Note3. The Site Boundary is based on publicly available cadastral data and during detailed design will be updated for the actual property boundaries and road reserves.

Modification Application Process

Below is an outline of the process that the Modification Application will be prepared, assessed and determined.



Technical Studies

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 (we are here)

We will finalise a Modification Application Report and submit it to DPIE for an initial assessment before it goes onto the NSW Major Projects website for public exhibition. We are aiming to lodge the Modification Application with DPIE over the coming weeks.



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.

You can also sign up to receive updates on the progress of the Modification Application on DPIE's Planning Portal by scanning this QR code or by visiting:

www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/41126



Making a Submission

Once the Modification Application has been reviewed by DPIE it will be placed on public exhibition for at least 30 days.

The public exhibition process involves:



Publication on DPIE's website (NSW Major Projects Planning Portal)



Advertisement in local newspapers



Written notice to the councils of the area in which the Project is located.

DPIE must also give notice to the owners or occupiers of land immediately next to the land to which the Project relates, and to owners or occupiers within any additional area determined by DPIE.

Submissions on the Project should be made via the Planning Portal. Should you have any concerns about the Project, we encourage you to get in touch with us so we can understand the concern and try and resolve any issues. Similarly, if you are supportive of or against the Project, we recommend you make a submission so we can address it in the Response to Submissions Report. Your continued feedback will help inform the final modifications to the approved project.

Remember to call or email us should you have questions about the Project:
[1800 WE TILT \(938 458\)](tel:1800WE TILT) or liverpoolrangewindfarm@tiltrenewables.com

Hardcopy information material from the consultation sessions held in October 2021 is still available at the Coolah and Cassilis Post Offices. We are also more than happy to post you printed material upon request.

We will seek to exhibit information on the Modification Application at central locations during the period of public exhibition, such as at the Coolah Library.



CALLING ON CIVIC-MINDED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

We have two vacancies on the Liverpool Range Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC).

CCC's provide an important forum for open dialogue between the proponent and representatives of the local community, stakeholder groups and local councils on issues directly relating to the Project.

We are seeking stakeholders who live locally or are members of a stakeholder group (community, environment, Aboriginal or industry) to join. Members are expected to contribute constructively to committee discussions, attend around 4 - 6 meetings a year, and communicate information about the Project between the committee and the broader community.

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN.

Please visit the below link or hover over the QR code to find the CCC Guidelines and nomination forms for either a Local Community Representative or Representative from a Stakeholder Group.

[Community Consultative Committees - \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/community-consultative-committees)



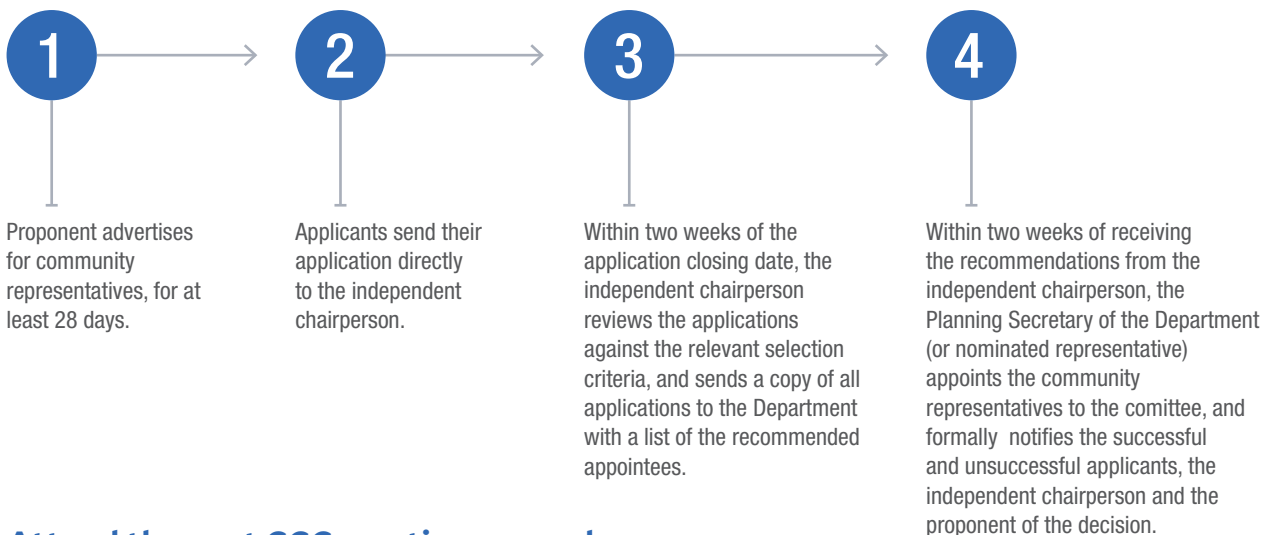
Please read the CCC Guidelines carefully. The nomination process will take around 8 weeks.

Nominations close **20 March 2022** and must be submitted to:

Chair Michael J Silver OAM liverpoolrangeccc@bigpond.com

Please email the Chair or call 1800 WE TILT (938 458) should you have any questions.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE PROCESS



Attend the next CCC meeting as an observer

Our next Liverpool Range Wind Farm CCC meeting will be in March 2022.

If you are thinking about applying to be a community representative on the CCC or would generally like to attend as an observer, please contact the Chair by emailing: Michael J Silver OAM at liverpoolrangeccc@bigpond.com

Alternatively, if you have comments you would like raised at the next CCC please contact the Chair, email us or you can contact one of the members directly (members are listed on the meeting minutes). CCC meetings are generally held quarterly and minutes from each meeting are available on the Project website under 'Community'.

www.tiltrenewables.com/assets-and-projects/liverpool-range-wind-farm/liverpool-range-wind-farm-community/



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.

A different kind of Benefit Sharing

We are exploring a new and innovative way to further share the benefits that a wind farm development brings to a region. We would like to know if you'd be interested in participating in a workshop with Regen Farmers Mutual to come up with a carbon market offering / framework for a cooperative of farmers in the Coolah and Cassilis regions.

An example could be a soil carbon project that stores carbon in agricultural soil, which earns Australian carbon credit units (carbon credits) for reducing the level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, while also providing agricultural productivity and profitability.

In partnering with Regen Farmers Mutual, we could assist farmers in the region to assess their natural capital and/or:

- Assist farmers with costs associated with individual assessments (part payment, reimbursement)
- Assist individual farmers with costs associated with going from assessment to integrated farm plan
- Assist a group of farmers within an identified region (Coolah and Cassilis) with costs associated with landscape feasibility studies.

At the moment, these are just ideas and nothing is set in stone, however we are keen to understand if there is interest so we can determine what a financial investment would look like.



Please add your interest to the form by scanning the QR code, and we will get in touch with proposed dates for a workshop when the time is right.

You can read about Regen Farmers Mutual here: www.regenfarmersmutual.com



Photo: We recently supported the Coolah Men's Shed by funding the 2022 registration and insurance costs for the Shed ute.



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)

Postal Address: PO Box 16080 Collins St West, Melbourne Vic 8007