

Meeting title	Liverpool Range Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC) - Video Conference		
Attendees			
Michael Silver OAM (Independent Chair)	Leanne Ryan (Warrumbungle Shire Council)		
Dr Julia Imrie (Community Member)	James Beckett, Land Development Manager, Tilt Renewables		
Linda Gant (Community Member)	Matt Stafford, Development Planner, Tilt Renewables		
Graeme Booker (Community Member)	Michael Stranger, Tilt Renewables		
Anne-Louise Capel (Involved Landowner)	Martine Holberton, Community and Stakeholder Advisor, Tilt Renewables		
Ant Martin (Involved Landowner)			
Observers			
Nil			
Apologies			
Greg Piper (Community Member)	Cr Ron Campbell (Upper Hunter Shire Council)		
Location	Video Conference	Date & start time	14 December 2020 at 2.06 pm

Topic	Discussion
1. Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair welcomed all to the video conference, particularly Michael Stranger who had recently joined the Tilt Renewables team.
2. Acknowledgement of Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land from which those joining the video conference come, and recognised the Traditional Owners continuing connection to land, water, and culture, paying respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.
3. Declarations of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Silver – pecuniary interest - expenses of Independent Chair borne by Tilt Renewables. Anne-Louise Capel – pecuniary interest - host landholder Ant Martin – pecuniary interest - host landholder
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the minutes of the CCC meeting held on 25 August 2020 had been approved on 21 September 2020.
5. Business Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
6. Actions	<p>6.1 That Tilt arrange for the concrete and aggregates contractor to address a future meeting of the CCC, prior to the commencement of construction work, regarding location and operation of the proposed quarries.</p> <p>Response: <i>Deferred pending confirmation of construction program.</i> DEFERRED</p> <p>6.2 That Tilt provide an update to the CCC on the alternative route in respect of the Denman Bridge and whether the bridge was used for haulage to the Wellington Wind Farm development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response provided in Proponent's Report. COMPLETED
7. Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil

8. Proponent's Report

Matt Stafford and Martine Holberton presented the Proponent's Report.

8.1 Project Update

- Martine Holberton introduced the Proponent's Report whilst Matt Stafford lead the power point presentation (copy attached to minutes).
- The meeting noted the following matters would be covered:
 - Project Update
 - Proposed Modification
 - Progress of Technical Assessments
 - Consultation and Engagement
 - Next Steps and Anticipated Timeframes
- Mr Stafford provided an overview of the project to date, noting that it had been a busy couple of months, with the turbine layout now in 'design freeze' mode and refined to 217 turbines. Work is progressing to finalise the technical assessments prior to coming out to meet with the community.
- The haulage route has been identified with a few deviations from the approved route but provides a superior outcome.
- Work on road upgrades required is progressing with continuing discussions occurring with Warrumbungle, Upper Hunter, and Mid-Western Councils.
- All potential access points to the transmission line identified – approval had 24 with 40 to be added, the bulk of them to the transmission line route along Ulan Road.
- Considerable consultation occurring with Councils and various agencies. Particular attention being given to consultation around the haulage route through the Hunter Valley.
- Heritage surveys involving traditional owners is underway and discussions progressing with TransGrid regarding connection to the grid.
- The modification report is being prepared.

8.2 Proposed Modification

- Mr Stafford stepped the CCC through the proposed modification.
- The modification will result in 50 less turbines – 217 turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 250 metres, an increase of 85 metres.
- He highlighted changes to the development corridor and the inclusion of 12 met masts, which are considered in the current project approval however were not defined locations. There are consequential changes to the site boundary.
- Mr Stafford advised that the proponent is still pursuing battery storage opportunities with this to be finalised in the final design.
- In terms of road upgrades, he noted that native vegetation clearance was not envisaged in the original development application (prepared by others). Road upgrade investigations completed recently identify that native vegetation clearance is likely required for the required road upgrades.
- It is also envisaged that strengthening of some TransGrid assets at Ulan will be required to support connection to the grid.
- Dr Julia Imrie question whether the proposed transmission line near the Hands of Rock picnic area was to be relocated. Mr Stafford advised it was to remain in its original approved location. Dr Imrie asked whether the line could be placed underground. Mr Stafford responded that placing it underground was not viable

due to cost and technical challenges, including a larger disturbance with underground cabling than the overhead design. Mr Stafford indicated TransGrid will require a 60 metres wide easement. Dr Imrie expressed her disappointment. James Beckett added the easement will be between the carpark and the existing road. He indicated that they want to minimise the amount of vegetation clearance but maintain safety standards particularly fire safety clearances. He indicated alternatives would be examined.

- Mr Stafford outlined the revised Over Dimension haulage route – see map Slide 5. He detailed and discussed the major issues:
 - Interchange at Tarro
 - At Denman
 - **The route through Tarro** – New England Highway to Hunter Expressway then to the Golden Highway.
 - **The route through Denman** - discussions are proceeding with Muswellbrook Shire Council regarding an alternate passage through Denman in lieu of crossing the Denman Bridge. This will involve turning right off the Golden Highway onto Denman Road, then via Bengalla Road and Wybong Road before joining the Golden Highway at Sandy Hollow. Lower height loads may still pass over Denman Bridge, and therefore the two route options are being proposed.
 - **Manoeuvres** – contraflow movements will be required at various locations along the OD route, including along the exit ramp of the Hunter Expressway and the exit ramp from Golden Highway onto Putty Road.
 - **Constraints** - All vehicle constraints have been identified – some temporary lifting of power lines and relocation of poles and lights will be necessary.
- Mr Stafford reviewed the Technical Assessments table on Slide 6 and highlighted the key findings and the next steps.
- The Chair requested an update on issues with potential electromagnetic interference (EMI) with a telecommunications provider’s proposed communication link across the site. Mr Stafford advised the telecommunication provider’s due diligence analysis did not pick up the windfarm approval. He indicated that they have acknowledged the windfarm was approved first and that further changes to turbine layout to avoid impacts cannot be made. Tilt have offered to assist the service provider in developing an alternate route through the site.
- Anne Louise Capel advised that an individual had approached her regarding her non selection as a Registered Aboriginal Party. Mr Stafford indicated he would review the appointment process, but the individual should contact him.

8.3 Consultation and Engagement

- Martine Holberton updated the CCC on recent engagement initiatives and the planned future activities.

Chair’s note: Tilt Renewables advise that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the ever-changing restrictions on travel, social distancing and gathering sizes, Tilt Renewables is planning for both face-to-face consultation and virtual consultation activities.

- Ms Holberton sought feedback on the September newsletter and whether there was anyone that did not receive it. She expressed appreciation to the Coolah and

	<p>Merriwa Post Offices for their assistance and co-operation in distributing the newsletter. She also indicated a desire to expand the proponent’s electronic data base listings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Holberton indicated that over the next two months the focus will be on consultation. It is anticipated that during February 2021 staff and technical specialists will be in the area for a week. Ms Holberton advised that only two feedback forms had been received from the online survey. She confirmed that the feedback form was still available. Discussion proceeded on community engagement sessions. Linda Gant suggesting that a meeting be held at Cassilis at a set time and place. Ms Holberton advised that drop-in sessions are informal opportunities for the members of the community to engage at times convenient to them. She acknowledged that perhaps a one-day drop-in session could be held in Cassilis. Ms Gant responded that the community are uncomfortable with drop-in sessions, thinking it is an evasive method of engaging. Ms Gant suggested there needs to be a higher focus on Cassilis given the likely impact of the project. Ms Capel enquired as to when the final design will be confirmed relative to which properties will be utilised. James Becket indicated that the revised layout is close to confirmation with larger turbines to be used and the number of turbines thinned. He advised that ‘involved’ landholders remain ‘involved’ landholders under the revised layout. Ms Capel question whether varying height turbines will be used across the farm, Mr Beckett confirmed that a uniform height turbine (turbine capacity to be determined during a future tender process) will be used across the farm. Ms Capel noted that with tree removal that hollows in tress will be lost for bird nesting. Mr Stafford advised that every effort is made to minimise tree removal, particularly those with hollows. Ms Capel suggested that a community group making bird nesting boxes may be able to mitigate the impact of removal of trees with hollows. Mr Stafford advised that he would assess if this approach could work. ACTION Ms Holberton then outlined how community engagement around the proposed modification will be managed. Whilst the information on the modification will be available digitally on the proponent’s website, those without the internet will be forwarded information packs by mail. She highlighted that pre-lodgement engagement with the community will occur during February 2021 with lodgement expected at the end of March 2021. Expanding on the project awareness and engagement processes, Ms Holberton highlighted the January newsletter and the establishment of possible shop window installations (posters) as major components of the promotion of the proposed engagement period. <p>8.4 Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCC noted the timeframes and actions detailed in the table on Slide 10.
<p>9 Actions required</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> That Tilt assess whether making bird nesting boxes to mitigate the impact of removal of trees with hollows in association with a community group is feasible. <p><i>Proponent’ Response: Nesting boxes will be very site specific. They are only effective where there is demonstrated nesting activity or to maintain a known flight</i></p>

corridor for birds and bats. It is something we will seriously consider, only where it adds value. Tilt Renewable consultants will address this in the BDAR report.

10 General Business

- **Coolah Tree Planting**

- Anne-Louise Capel advised that Coolah Landcare tree planting is underway with trees planted along the cycleway in Coolah with more advanced trees to be planted when water is available. Ms Capel flagged a sponsorship request to support installation of park benches along the cycleway.

- **Met Masts**

- Linda Gant enquired whether more extensive climatic and weather information can be sourced for the community from the wind farms met masts supplementing that available from the weather radar.

Proponent's Response: The BoM network of weather stations collects different data to what Tilt Renewables collect, e.g.: temperature, wind, and direction measurements at < 10 m above ground level. Unless the BoM were able to dedicate someone to individually review and process data from Tilt's met masts to get it into a useful format for community consumption, the Tilt data would not be of use to the BOM.

- **Wybong Road, Sandy Hollow**

- Ms Gant questioned whether the haulage vehicles will be able to negotiate the two corners on Wybong Road near Sandy Hollow. Mr Stafford advised that they believe they can gain passage but there will need to be some road shoulder widening works undertaken. He advised that the longer blades are increasingly being designed in two parts - the main section being 85-87 metres long whilst the tip portion is a bolt-on.

- **Blade Recycling**

- Ms Capel raised the issue of blade recycling and battery recycling. She noted that blades have a life of about 30 years and that recent research may lead to wind turbine blades being able to be recycled. Mr Beckett advised that the wind industry is aiming for end-to-end recycling of the parts. Ms Capel also questioned the carbon emission balance, relative to the emissions generated during manufacture of the turbines and how long it takes for the windfarm to recover the cost of these emissions. Mr Beckett noted that in terms of cumulative energy payback, or the time to produce the amount of energy required of production and installation, a wind turbine will offer a net benefit within five to eight months of being commissioned.

Refer: https://www.vestas.com/~/_media/vestas/about/sustainability/pdfs/lca_v90_june_2006.ashx

- **Accommodation**

- Ms Capel advised that should the Tilt team be coming to the Coolah region in February 2021 they should make accommodation arrangements now given likely increased tourist numbers at that time.

Chair's note: Tilt Renewables advise that staff are closely monitoring the COVID-19

travel restrictions to NSW. At the time of writing, NSW borders are open to Victorians. If the situation changes, consultation activities will need to revert to digital channels and phone bookings.

- **Project Development**

- Ms Capel sought clarification on the following:
 - When will project be shelf ready? Mr Stafford advised that they are looking at commercial opportunities, but the modification and several other steps need to be completed before that stage is reached.
 - Will the modification be a quick turn around with DPIE? Mr Stafford indicated that they are looking to address all potential issues and likely questions that will be posed.
 - Is it likely that there will be a delay in turbine manufacture which will impact the projected operational timeframe? Mr Beckett responded that a supplier will be selected that can meet the developments desired construction program timeframes.

- **Tilt Renewables – Ownership**

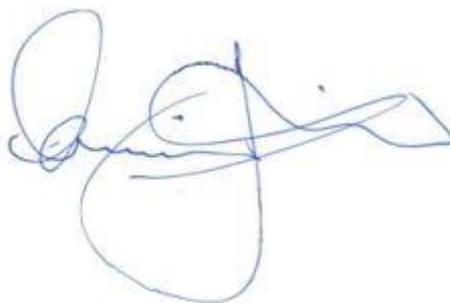
- Ant Martin highlighted recent events regarding a bid by major shareholder Infratil to buy the rest of the shares of Tilt Resources, and a subsequent \$5.1 billion offer from Australian Super to takeover Infratil. In reply Mr Beckett confirmed Infratil is a major shareholder of Tilt Resources. He noted that Infratil has advised it will do a six-month strategic review of its 65 per cent stake in Tilt Renewables. In terms of the Australian Super offer, he noted that the Infratil board had rejected this offer.

12. Next Meeting

Meeting closed: 3.32 pm. The Chair thanked all for their involvement in the video conference and wish them a happy Christmas and safe 2021.

Next meeting: Tentatively set for early March 2021.

13. Meeting minutes approved



Michael J. Silver OAM
Independent Chair

18 January 2021



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROJECT

CCC MEETING – 14 DECEMBER 2020



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LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROJECT UPDATE



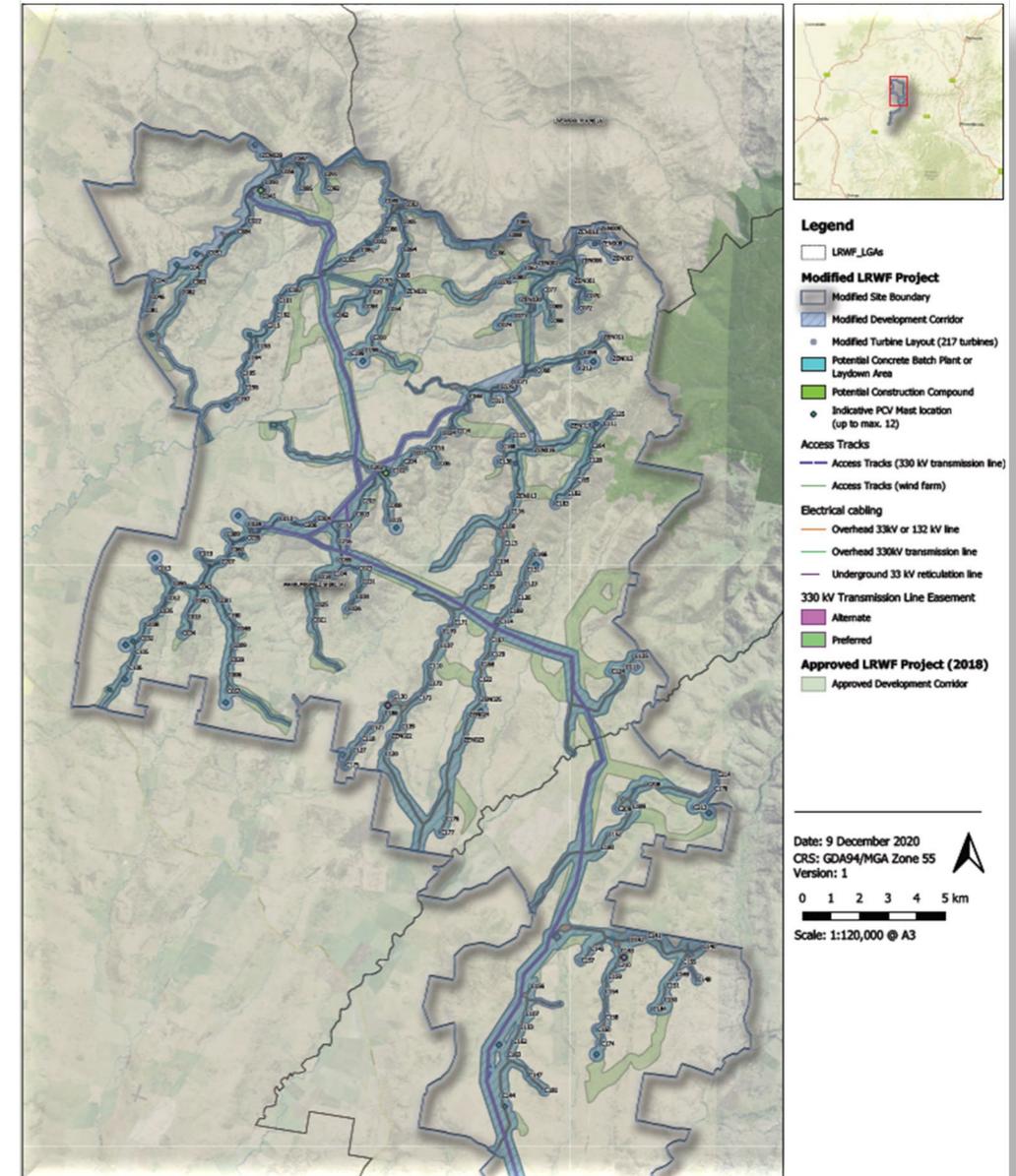
- **WTG layout:** indicative 'Mod layout' achieved – 217 WTGs (reduction of 50)
- **Civil and electrical design (cBOP/eBOP):** nearing completion, 'design freeze' expected next week
- **Technical environmental assessments:** significant progress, most nearing completion
- **Over-dimensional (OD) haulage route:** preferred OD route identified (some deviations required)
- **Road Upgrades Investigation:** 3D modelling nearing completion. Road upgrade standards agreed with UHSC and MWSC. Further consultation with WSC required
- **Transmission line (TxL) access tracks and access points:** all potential locations identified (potential site access points for entire project increased to 64)
- **Consultation:** working closely with councils, TfNSW, DPIE, BCD, NPWS, Traditional Owners, TransGrid, and planning for pre-lodgement community consultation early 2021
- **Modification Application Report:** commenced, under preparation



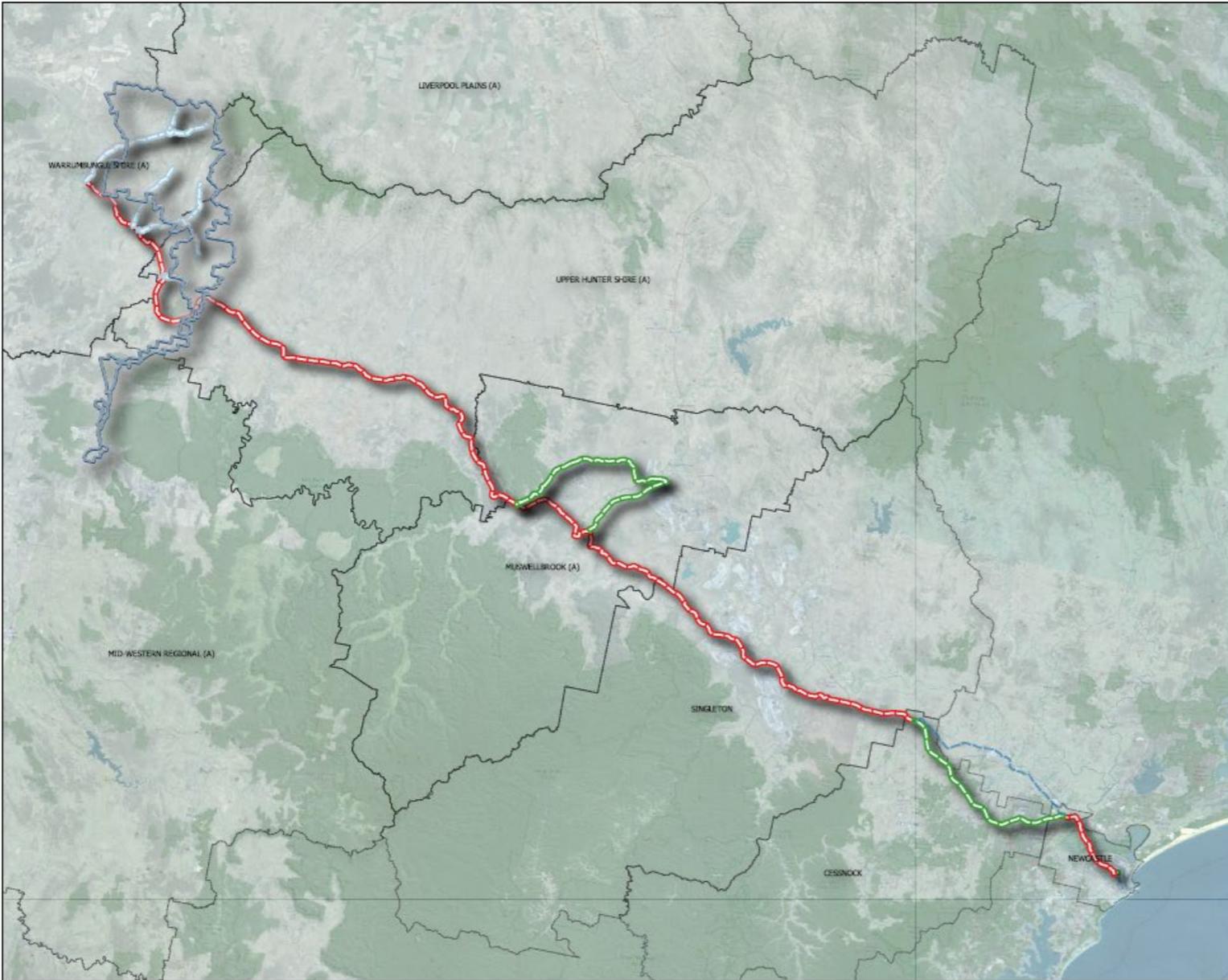
LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATION



- **Max. number of WTGs:** up to 217 x WTGs (reduction of 50)
- **Max. blade tip height:** 250 m (increase of 85 m)
- **Minor adjustment to Development Corridor:** to account for design changes and include up to 12 x permanent metmasts
- **Minor adjustment to Site Boundary in NW area:** to account for design changes (pending landholder agreement)
- **Minor adjustment to TxL alignment:** to avoid a small section of Durridgere Conservation Area (pending landholder agreement)
- **Addition of Battery Energy Storage System (BESS):** at Ulan or on-site
- **Modification of OD route:** deviations required at Beresfield/Tarro (to avoid Maitland) and Denman
- **Road upgrades:** identify roads and intersection upgrades between Port and Site to assess ecology and heritage impacts
- **Potential updates to native vegetation clearance thresholds:** to account for road upgrades and optimised design/layout
- **Inclusion of upgrade works to TransGrid's assets:** pole strengthening works required at point of connection at Ulan



LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROPOSED MODIFICATION



Legend

- Modified Site Boundary
- LRWF_LGAs
- Over-dimensional (OD) Route
 - Approved
 - Preferred (Approved)
 - Preferred (Modified)
 - Preferred (Local Roads)

Date: 9 December 2020
CRS: GDA94/MGA Zone 55
Version: 1

0 10 20 30 40 km

Scale: 1:1,000,000 @ A3

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

PROGRESS OF TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS

Technical Assessment	Key findings/next steps
WTG, Civil and Electrical Design (cBOP/eBOP) Optimisation	Indicative WTG 'layout freeze' achieved. cBOP/eBOP design nearing completion, 'design freeze' expected next week
Draft Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (roads and wind farm)	Final surveys due to commence 11 Jan. Draft report due Feb/Mar 2021.
Draft Operational Bird and Bat Assessment	TBC. Will be completed after Spring surveys.
Draft Traffic Impact Assessment	Peak daily traffic volumes slightly less than approved project. Minor updates required once 'frozen' cBOP/eBOP design is received.
Draft OD route survey and swept path analysis	Some constraint locations identified – deviation from approved OD Route required. Awaiting final updates to report.
Draft Preliminary Road Upgrade Investigation	Road upgrade standards discussed with councils. 3D modelling largely completed. Awaiting final modelling results. Further consultation required.
Draft Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	'Frozen' WTG layout provided to consultants. Draft report due Feb/Mar 2021
Draft Predictive Noise Assessment	All non-associated dwellings < 35dB(A). Negligible change from approved project. Background noise monitoring now concluded. Draft report due Feb/Mar 2021
Draft Shadow Flicker Assessment	<30 hrs of shadow flicker per year at all dwelling locations. Minor updates to report required to reflect 'frozen' WTG layout.
Draft Electromagnetic Interference Assessment	Minor updates to report required to reflect 'frozen' WTG layout.
Draft Cultural Heritage Assessment (roads and wind farm)	Surveys completed last week. Draft report due Feb/Mar 2021
Draft Aviation Impact Assessment	Minor updates to report required to reflect 'frozen' WTG layout.

Since our last meeting...

September:

- Newsletter distributed by email, post, local outlets, which included:
 - Project update
 - Promotion of online feedback form to determine best methods to consult on the Modification Application
 - Ads to promote the newsletter were placed in the Mudgee Guardian and the Outback Press

January:

- Newsletter to be distributed by email, post, local outlets promoting the Q1 consultation activities
- Additional promotion of the February consultation activities will be undertaken

February (Q1 consultation):

- Informal drop-in information sessions in Coolah township and ability to book one-on-one appointments
- We are open to arranging presentations from technical specialists so that you can hear about their methodologies, findings and mitigation methods, where there is sufficient interest. (We only received 2 responses to our [online feedback form](#) shared in the September newsletter.)
 - Noise
 - Visual
 - Heritage
 - Biodiversity
- Digital tools: Project webpage and possibly an additional website.
- Fact sheets and information packs: will be downloadable and printable via the project webpage. Information packs will be mailed out upon request.

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Pre-lodgement Community Engagement	Timing
Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meetings (generally quarterly)	<i>Scheduled:</i> 14 Dec 2020 TBC Q1 2021
Newsletters (generally quarterly)	<i>Scheduled:</i> Jan 2021 March/April 2021
Project webpage (with linked CCC minutes, newsletters)	Updated regularly
Landowner and neighbour engagement	Ongoing
Modification Application consultation period – promotion	<i>Scheduled:</i> January 2021
Community consultation and information sessions (including one-on-one appointments, drop-in sessions, virtual consultation capabilities, feedback forms, technical specialist presentations) – planned	<i>Scheduled:</i> February 2021
Report back: 'What we heard' update to community + how we are responding in the Modification Application Report	<i>Scheduled:</i> March 2021
Finalisation of Modification Application Report communication material for lodgement with DPIE and public exhibition	<i>Scheduled:</i> March 2021

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Benefit Sharing

We are 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 providing financial support to the local community through taking a legacy approach to community benefit sharing programs.

Objectives:

- Support of landowners and the community
- Build lasting relationships
- Do what we say we will do

Deliver:

- Community fund*
- Local employment during construction and operational phases of our projects

- A drought-proof and post-retirement income stream for farmers
- Education scholarships
- Traineeships

**VPA obligation is \$3,000 per installed turbine per year and will be distributed to both Warrumbungle and Upper Hunter councils, 77% for Community Enhancement Fund and 23% for Road Maintenance Fund.*

Consultation

- Consultation with community groups and organisations such as:
 - Coolah District Development Group
 - Coolah Chamber of Commerce
 - Coolah Central School – Trade Training Centre
- Ongoing sponsorship opportunities – *current*
- Utilise Modification Consultation period (including online feedback forms) to build out BSP

LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM

NEXT STEPS/ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAMES



- **Heritage surveys:** completed last week
- **Lodge Letter of Intent with DPIE:** this week
- **Ecology surveys:** due to commence 11 Jan
- **Complete Preliminary Road Upgrade Investigation (PRUI):** Dec 2020
- **Confirmation of road upgrade requirements with councils:** Jan/Feb 2021
- **Confirm vegetation clearance for road upgrades:** Feb 2021
- **Finalisation of draft impact assessments:** Feb/Mar 2021
- **Broader community consultation:** early Feb 2021
- **Anticipated lodgment of Modification Application with DPIE:** Mar/Apr 2021

QUESTIONS / DISCUSSION

THANK YOU

