

WILLATOOK

Wind Farm



PROJECT UPDATE

The end of the year is fast approaching, bringing with it the opportunity to provide an update on the progress of Willatook Wind Farm, and wish you a safe and happy New Year.

This year, Wind Prospect finalised the Environment Effects Statement (EES) and planning permit applications for the Willatook Wind Farm, seeking approval to develop a 59-turbine wind farm and battery storage facility.

The EES along with the planning permit applications were placed on public exhibition throughout July and August, with about 100 submissions received from stakeholders and community.

An independent panel and inquiry hearing was conducted over four weeks from October 11. At the hearing, there were presentations by several expert witnesses, government agencies, Moyne and Glenelg shire councils, and community members.

With the hearing now concluded, it is the role of the inquiry members to submit their report and recommendations to the

Minister for Planning, which informs the Minister's assessment for the project. This is expected to be released early next year. The Minister for Planning will conclude the EES process by issuing a written assessment of the project including consideration of the report by the independent inquiry members.

The assessment is not an approval in its own right, but will recommend whether the project's environmental effects are acceptable, and may set out modifications or further management measures that the Minister considers are appropriate.

It has taken the team several years to reach this point in the planning and assessment phase of the Willatook Wind Farm. We would like to thank all who have been involved in the process.

We will keep you informed of progress, and wish you a safe and relaxing festive period.

The Wind Prospect Team

THE PROJECT

Willatook Wind Farm will harness strong and reliable winds to generate renewable energy through 59 wind turbine generators and battery storage system. It will have the capacity to produce enough clean renewable electricity to power up to 200,000 Victorian homes.

ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS STATEMENT PROCESS



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design of project revised
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Engagement Committee meeting Technical studies updated to reflect updated project design
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drop-in sessions held at Orford Community Hall Information booklet published Project newsletter #11
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Engagement Committee meeting Technical webinar sharing the process and findings of three key environmental assessments held (ecology, noise and visual amenity) Webinar presentation and video published
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EES and planning applications submitted to State Government
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project newsletter #12
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EES and planning permit applications placed on public exhibition at Mortlake, Port Fairy, Koroit, Melbourne State Library and online
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community sponsorship awarded to We've Got You Inc.
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent panel directions hearing held online Community sponsorship awarded to Port Fairy Cricket Club, Port Fairy Consolidated School
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public panel hearing commenced on October 11, 2022 Community sponsorship awarded to the Port Fairy Agricultural Society Community Engagement Committee meeting scheduled and postponed Project newsletter #13
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel hearing concluded Community sponsorship awarded to Basalt to Bay Landcare Group
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project newsletter #14



COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP FUND

The \$20,000 annual Community Sponsorship Fund has supported several community groups. The fund helps community groups and organisations that operate in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm to improve their services, programs, initiatives and/or facilities.

We are pleased to have recently made the following allocations under this fund. The program is open and applications are welcome.

- Basalt to Bay Landcare Group, \$4,485
- Port Fairy Little Athletics Club, \$2,350
- Port Fairy Cricket Club, \$4,928
- We've Got You Inc, \$5,000
- Port Fairy Consolidated School, \$4,997

Do you have a community project that needs a little help?

Perhaps Wind Prospect can assist.

As part of our commitment to the Willatook community, we have established a \$20,000 per year sponsorship fund to assist community groups and organisations that operate in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm.

Open year-round

Application forms can be found at www.willatookwindfarm.com.au



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