



# Willatook Wind Farm

## Newsletter 2

November 2010

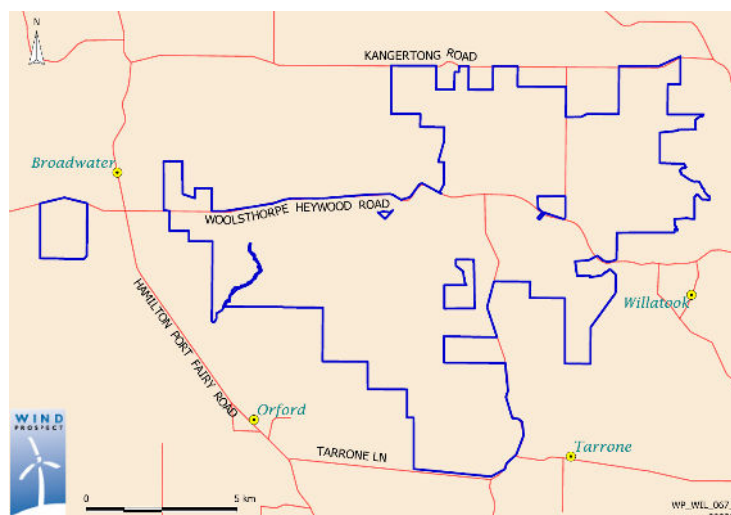
### *An update on the proposed Willatook Wind Farm*

#### THE PROPOSED WILLATOOK WIND FARM

Since Wind Prospect publicly announced the proposed Willatook Wind Farm in September 2010, we have undertaken a number of detailed site assessments and have commenced public consultation, the results of which are being used to progress the proposed wind farm design. Based on the current design, the project would consist of up to 190 wind turbines. This may change over coming months as the design of the proposed wind farm evolves and adapts in response to the recommendations from assessments currently underway, and in response to feedback received through ongoing public consultation. This evolution will ensure the final proposed project will be the most appropriate for the site.

One change that we can confirm since the release of Newsletter 1 is the maximum geometry of the wind turbines under consideration. The maximum rotor diameter has been extended from 112 metres to 120 metres while the maximum tower height (or hub height) of up to 102 metres and blade tip height of up to 152 metres remains the same.

The adjacent map indicates the current boundary of the wind farm. Further details of the Willatook Wind Farm proposal can be found on the project website.



#### WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

##### Public Consultation

Public consultation regarding the project commenced during September 2010 with a doorknock of over 90 residences within 5km of the proposed wind farm site with the aim of establishing contact, informing residents of the proposed wind farm and identifying issues that require addressing during project planning and design. Letters of notification have also been sent to various stakeholders, including community groups, government agencies and non-government organisations and a number of meetings with these stakeholders have also taken place. Consultation with project stakeholders will continue throughout the various stages of development of the proposed project.

##### Open Days

The public exhibition open days previously scheduled for Orford and Hawkesdale in November were postponed and will be rescheduled for early 2011. The rescheduling of the open days will provide an opportunity for Wind Prospect to display a refined proposal in light of forthcoming assessment results and in consideration of emerging local and government policies. It will also provide additional time to consult with stakeholders including the local community. We apologise for any inconvenience resulting from the postponement and look forward to presenting in 2011.

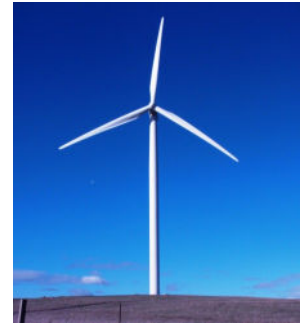
##### Community Support

Wind Prospect is pleased to support the Hawkesdale 150 year anniversary celebrations planned for February 2011 and recently donated \$1,000 to assist the Hawkesdale and District Development Action Committee in their preparations for this event. Wind Prospect is also pleased to provide support for a student award at the Hawkesdale P12 College 2010 presentation evening.

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

### New research results

A study has recently been completed by an independent Australian consultancy to provide the latest information to communities, developers, planning and enforcement authorities and other stakeholders on environmental noise from wind farms. The study found that Australia has some of the toughest, most up-to-date guidelines controlling wind farm noise in the world and that there is extensive evidence that the noise from wind farms developed and operated in accordance with the current standards and guidelines will not have any direct adverse health effects. The full report can be downloaded from <http://www.cleanenergycouncil.org.au/cec/resourcecentre/reports.html>.



## ASSESSMENTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

- Noise assessment: This study will assess compliance of the proposed project with the New Zealand Standard NZS6808:1998 as required by Victorian planning guidelines. Background noise monitoring has been undertaken at 12 locations around the site and the turbine layout is being reviewed in light of results.
- Landscape and visual assessment: A preliminary landscape and visual assessment is currently underway. Photomontages that depict the appearance of the proposed wind farm from key viewing locations are also being prepared. Results of this assessment will inform the turbine layout.
- Traffic and access assessment: This assessment is progressing and will be completed following further consultation with VicRoads and the Moyne Shire with regard to issues including suitable transportation routes and road safety during construction.
- Aviation safety assessment: This assessment is examining the potential impact of the proposed wind farm on aviation safety including the need for obstacle marking and/or aviation safety lighting.
- Ecology assessments: A detailed ecology assessment has been undertaken to identify the presence of important flora and fauna species on or near the proposed wind farm site. Further targeted surveys of brolga and bats have been undertaken and will continue into summer 2011 to further inform the wind farm design. Wind Prospect WA is keen to tap into local knowledge about Brolga and invites local residents to contact Wind Prospect with current or historical information regarding Brolga habitat or activity within 10 kilometres of the proposed wind farm site area.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

Your opinion matters to us and will help shape the development of the project by assisting us identify potential improvements regarding the design of the proposed Willatook Wind Farm. A Public Opinion Survey regarding the proposed Willatook Wind farm is available at [www.willatookwindfarm.com.au](http://www.willatookwindfarm.com.au). Feedback can also be provided by contacting us via the contact details provided below.

## HOW TO CONTACT US



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If you wish to participate in the community consultation, please complete a copy of our **Public Opinion Survey** available at [www.willatookwindfarm.com.au](http://www.willatookwindfarm.com.au)

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