



Willatook Wind Farm

Newsletter 4

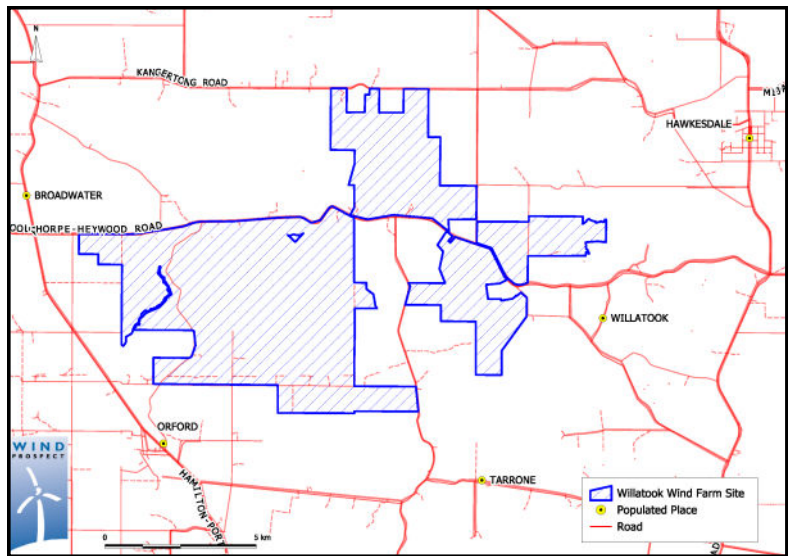
August 2017

An update on the proposed Willatook Wind Farm

THE PROPOSED WILLATOOK WIND FARM

Wind Prospect is pleased to provide an update on the proposed Willatook Wind Farm. Since the April 2011 publishing of Newsletter 3, there has been a long period of market uncertainty created by numerous reviews of the Federal Government's Renewable Energy Target (RET), along with some other factors which have resulted in a period of relative inactivity on the project. Following on from these reviews there is now more stability around the RET and this stability is contributing to improved investor confidence in the renewable energy sector in Australia. This improved investor confidence has provided the impetus for the progression of the Willatook Wind Farm project.

During this time of relative inactivity a number of detailed site assessments and consultation with the local community have progressed in the background, the results of which have fed into the wind farm site design. Because of this work and a leap forward in the technology available, the number of proposed turbines has been reduced from 145 to approximately 99 turbines with a tip height of up to 220m. 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 www.willatookwindfarm.com.au.



Further changes may be made over the 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 stakeholder consultation. This evolution will ensure the final proposed project will be the most appropriate for the site.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Public Consultation

Meetings and discussions with various stakeholders including community groups, government agencies and non-government organisations are taking place to identify issues that may require addressing during project planning and design. Wind Prospect has also met with several neighbours around the proposed Willatook Wind Farm site to discuss the proposal with discussions to continue over the coming weeks. This neighbour consultation will include a neighbour door knock within approximately 3km of the project to discuss the project and give neighbours the opportunity to provide feedback.

Planning changes

The Victorian government has implemented some changes to the planning process for wind farms. One of the key changes is reinstating the state government as the responsible authority for all wind farm planning permit applications. This means that the Minister for Planning will be the responsible authority that will assess the planning permit application for the proposed Willatook Wind Farm. There have also been some changes to where wind farms can be built, mainly the introduction of a buffer between a dwelling and where a turbine can be built without the neighbour's consent. This buffer was originally set at two kilometres but has since been reduced to one kilometre through amendment VC124 in April 2015.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Willatook Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee

To date, 11 meetings have taken place with the Community Engagement Committee established by Moyne Shire Council. The Committee comprises the Mayor and two Councillors, three community representatives and two representatives from Wind Prospect. If you are interested in the Committee or finding out more about it, please contact Vicki Askew-Thornton at the Moyne Shire Council on (03) 5568-0555.

Open Days

Willatook Wind Farm invites all local residents to attend one of our public exhibition open days. This is an opportunity to learn more about wind energy, discuss the project and gives you the opportunity to provide input into the development process. We welcome you to join us:

Orford Hall
High Street Orford
Thursday 14th September
3:00pm — 7:00pm

Willatook Hall
Willatook—Warrong Rd
Friday 15th September
8:30am — 11:30am

* Please note light refreshments will be available at both venues



EES referral

Wind Prospect expects to submit a referral to the Minister for Planning as to whether an Environmental Effects Statement (EES) will be required. The EES referral will contain a range of information regarding the Willatook Wind Farm proposal which will be made publicly available on the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website at www.planning.vic.gov.au. If an EES is not required, applicable Commonwealth and Victorian legislation and guidelines require that detailed assessment of potential impacts would nevertheless be required to inform a planning permit application.

HAVE YOUR SAY



Your opinion matters to us. We would like to hear your views on how the wind farm proposal could potentially be improved. A Public Opinion Survey regarding the proposed Willatook Wind farm is available at www.willatookwindfarm.com.au. Feedback can also be provided by contacting us via the contact details provided below or by attending our public open days.

HOW TO CONTACT US



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If you wish to participate in the online community consultation, please complete a copy of our **Public Opinion Survey** available at www.willatookwindfarm.com.au