



## STOCKYARD HILL WIND FARM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

**No.19 | August 2017**

In June, the Victorian Government approved the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm Planning Amendment that primarily increases the tip height to 180 metres. The amendment results in a reduction of 8 wind turbines from the 157 locations approved in the existing planning permit; however, increases the energy output of the facility by over 45%.

Goldwind anticipates early works on the wind farm to commence in late 2017, with the bulk of wind farm construction to commence in early 2018.

The Victorian Government also approved an on-site quarry and native vegetation removal associated with the overhead 132 kV powerlines required to connect the wind farm to the 500kV network south of Lismore.

The quarry will be used for a period of approximately three years to supplement the large amount of crushed rock and bulk fill material required to construct the wind farm. The quarry material will be required for the access track network, hardstands, wind turbine foundations and possibly for upgrades and repair and remediation of local public roads.

### **The quarry application includes the following features:**

- A quarry pit to supply the volume of basalt required – the pit is proposed to be approximately 300 metres by 500 metres in area
- Water dam to manage surface water and sediment control
- Access tracks to manage vehicle and mobile plant movements in and out of the quarry site
- Overburden and top soil storage areas
- Crushing and screening facilities
- Temporary site office, car parking, workshop and amenities buildings

## Key Amendments to the SHWF Wind Energy Facility

COMPONENT	PERMITTED WIND ENERGY FACILITY	AMENDED WIND ENERGY FACILITY – PROPOSED DESIGN	CHANGE
Proposed turbine numbers	157	149	Reduction of 8 turbines
Overall height	132 m	180 m	Increased height of up to 48 m
Generation capacity MW	Up to 524 MW	Up to 532 MW	Increase of up to 8 MW of installed nameplate capacity
GWh per year	Approximately 1350 GWh	Approximately 2000 GWh	Increase of approximately 650 GWh per year
Average households powered per year <sup>1</sup>	Approximately 232,100 households	Approximately 340,000 households	Increase of approximately 108,000 householders
Greenhouse benefits <sup>2</sup>	Approximately 1.35 million tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> savings per year	Approximately 2.0 million tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> savings per year	Increase of approximately 0.65 million tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> savings per year

1. These calculations are based on a household average of 5.817 MWh per annum, sourced from ACIL Allen Consulting, A report to the Australian Energy Regulator Electricity Bill Benchmarks for Residential Customers, March 2015.

2. These calculations are based on the formula provided in DELWP's "Greenhouse Benefits, A guide to calculating greenhouse benefits of wind energy facility proposals, April 2015".

### Goldwind Australia purchases Stockyard Hill development project

Goldwind Australia has taken the reins of the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm from Origin Energy in June 2017.

Under the terms of sale agreement executed between the two parties, Origin sold Stockyard Hill Wind Farm, Australia's largest wind development, and signed a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) from the commencement of operations in 2019 to 2030.

### EPBC

As part of the amended wind farm design, a new referral under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act was prepared and lodged in July 2016. The referral covered all project elements, including the wind energy facility, on-site quarry, road upgrade works, powerlines and terminal station.

The project was deemed to be a Controlled Action assessment process by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy and the assessment was progressed on a Preliminary Documentation pathway.

Primary focus on the assessment has been on impacts on the Striped Legless Lizard (SLL), Golden Sun Moth (GSM) and Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain (NTGVVP).

The referral is in the final stages of assessment and decision expected within the coming month. Refer to the project website for further documentation and announcements regarding this important project approval.

## COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

**Stockyard Hill Wind Farm would like to encourage community groups to apply for support through the project community investment program.**

The community investment funds available to eligible community groups and programs increases significantly on construction commencing and further again during the operations phase.

The project is keen to support community minded projects that address one of the following:

1. Safety – contributing to community safety, emergency preparedness or disaster relief efforts
2. Environmental sustainability – promoting and contributing to energy efficiency or community environmental projects
3. Skills & education – supporting local skills development & adding to local education opportunities
4. Community spirit – encouraging people to join in local community events & activities with broad participation.

Please head to our website to complete the on-line application or call 1800 753 730 for further information.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information visit  
[www.stockyardhillwindfarm.com.au](http://www.stockyardhillwindfarm.com.au)  
 or call our project hotline on **1800 753 730**.

