

Moah Creek

Renewable Energy Project

Newsletter 03 | September 22

Project Overview

Welcome to the third newsletter for Moah Creek Renewable Energy Project (MCREP) - an integrated wind, solar and battery storage project.

Our previous newsletter can be found here <https://www.moahcreek.com/news>

At a glance:

Moah Creek Renewable Energy Project indicative capacity



370 MW Wind



200 MW Solar



300 MW Battery

Project location

The project location is 30 kms West of Rockhampton. As a result of ecology surveys and constructability assessments the project footprint has been re-designed and reduced to cover 568 hectares.



Project updates since our last newsletter :

It's important to us that this project is developed in an environmentally, culturally, socially and economically responsible way. In line with that and the preparation of our Development Application, there has been a lot happening since our last newsletter.

Landscape & visual

A landscape and visual impact assessment was completed that included the creation of photomontages and visualisations to create scenarios from a number of viewpoints both before & after the development of our project. The assessment also considered the planning schemes for the Rockhampton Regional Council Government Area and concluded that visually the project would comply, provided impacts on sensitive areas are considered and managed. The design of our project will include mitigation measures that so that the wind farm is integrated as much as possible into the surrounding landscape. This assessment will be publicly available as part of our Development Application, and we will be providing summary information at our community information sessions (see page 4 for details) .



Shadow flicker

As mentioned in our last newsletter, when light shines through rotating blades, it can cast an intermittent shadow known as shadow flicker. Our shadow flicker assessment was completed to identify potential impacts on what is referred to as "sensitive land uses" – this includes residential dwellings. The extent of the shadow caused by our wind turbines was calculated in accordance with Queensland Government technical guidance. The assessment confirmed that all sensitive land uses on land parcels that are not part of the project are located beyond the shadow flicker zone of and therefore will not be impacted by our project.



Flora & fauna

A range of ecology surveys have been undertaken across different seasons since 2020 to inform our comprehensive design process for the project to include flora and fauna impact assessments. The flora surveys involved recording the amount, type and quality of native vegetation. The fauna surveys identified if our project area is used by native animals. Our objective is in the first place to avoid flora and fauna impacts to the greatest extent possible and this has led to more than twenty design revisions to our proposed development layout.

Our original proposed study area for the project has significantly decreased as the project has progressed following extensive studies completed across the site, including flora and fauna.

We will develop a Rehabilitation Management Plan to stabilise and revegetate areas of disturbance that are not required during the operational phase and put in place offsets for the residual impacts on flora and fauna. Our Rehabilitation Management Plan will be publicly available on our website once it is finalised.



Bushfire hazard

All wind farm projects are required to assess the risk of bushfire and ability to fight a fire as part of their Development Application. We have conducted our bushfire hazard assessment; this included bushfire modelling to determine the minimum setback distances.

A Bushfire Management Plan will be required as part of our development consent and will be finalised at detailed project design stage. It will include fire management controls for construction and maintenance activities, measures to reduce the likelihood of a bushfire impacting the site or spreading from the site, measures to prevent or mitigate fires igniting, information as to the availability of fire-suppression equipment, access and water, and recommendations as to the storage and maintenance of fuels and other flammable materials at our project site.



Project updates since our last newsletter continued:

Noise monitoring

The project design provides a minimum 1.5-kilometre setback from existing dwellings (sensitive land users) on land owned by those who are not associated with the project. In addition to that setback, we have undertaken an acoustic amenity evaluation (noise modelling) that included an operational noise modelling and predicted noise assessment. This evaluation considered the background noise data that was collected from the noise loggers that we temporarily installed at several locations adjacent to the project area in late 2021.

Our proposed model of wind turbine was chosen so as to comply with the lowest applicable base noise limits defined in the Queensland wind farm guidelines.

Once operational, we will ensure that our project design continues to comply with the State wind farm code and with the relevant noise limits for related infrastructure set out in the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2019.



Get involved & be heard: Our Drop-In information sessions

We are working hard to establish and maintain a long-term connection with the community and to be viewed as a good neighbour. We will be setting up a community fund that will provide ongoing funding to support local projects, community groups and organisations. Input will be sought from the community to inform and shape how the fund will work and be run.

In order to deliver real economic & social benefits to the community & the region, we will prioritise local procurement and supply chains and the use of local business & service providers. At our Drop-in information sessions (below) there will be the opportunity to learn more about this, as well as meet our team, ask questions and register your details as a business or service provider.

Our 3 information sessions are as follows:

Dalma Hall, Stanwell Waroula Road, Dalma

Kalapa Hall, 22 Kalapa Black Mountain Road, Kalapa

FBA's Flow Centre, 80 East St, Rockhampton

Monday 10 October 4 – 7 pm

Tuesday 11 October 4 – 7 pm

Wednesday 12 October 4 – 7 pm

At each of these there will be a short formal presentation at around 5:30 pm but you are free to drop in at any time.

Please RSVP for these events or ask us any questions by sending a text (with your name & which event) or calling us on **0450 554 767**.

Planning & approvals - Where are we at?

EPBC Act Referral: In August we met with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) to discuss the requirements under the Environmental Protection Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC) – a framework to protect flora, fauna, ecological communities & heritage places. We will be submitting a referral under this Act in early spring 2022.

State Code 23 Wind Farm Development: In parallel with the EPBC Act referral, we are also planning to lodge our Development Application in early spring 2022. This application is comprehensive and follows two years of extensive surveys, studies and project design – it will include details as to how we have worked to minimise any potential impacts.

Section 22A VMA Act 1999: As our project will involve the clearing of native vegetation, we lodged an application under Section 22A of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 for a determination that the purpose of our development is accepted as what is known as a “relevant purpose” for the clearing of the vegetation. We have received confirmation from the Department of Resources that they are satisfied with our application, and we can proceed with the project.

Indicative Development timeline



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