



MT FYANS
WIND FARM

NEWSLETTER EDITION 06 | JULY 2020

Project snapshot

Name:

Mt Fyans Wind Farm

Status:

Planning permit submitted

Location:

Five kilometres north of Mortlake, on the Mortlake-Ararat Road

Landholders:

10

Site size:

13,600 hectares

Capacity:

About 400MW

Turbines:

Up to 85

Tip height:

Up to 200 metres

Transmission line:

18 kilometres of powerline to the Mortlake substation

Project update

Woolnorth Renewables is continuing to work on securing planning approval for Mt Fyans Wind Farm.

Several practical changes have been implemented due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, including home-based work arrangements and restrictions on staff movements and field work. We are monitoring government guidelines and have created a company protocol to ensure we can keep our employees, consultants and communities safe.

We have appointed a Mortlake-based Mt Fyans Wind Farm Community Liaison Officer, Fiona Woodhams, who will be manning our new Mortlake shopfront two days per week. Located in the former hairdressing salon in Dunlop Street, the shopfront has been painted and furnished. It will be open two days a week with days and times listed over the page.

On April 22, 2020, we received notification from the federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment that the Mt Fyans Wind Farm proposal requires assessment and a decision on whether approval should be given under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act. This Federal Department and the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) will undertake a bilateral assessment process.

The referral states the proposal was likely to have a significant impact on the:

- Southern Bent-winged Bat
- Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plains; and
- Seasonal Herbaceous Wetland (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains.

We will provide you with more information on this process when it comes to hand.

Mt Fyans Wind Farm donates \$50,000 to Mortlake helicopter pad

Mortlake will soon have an all-weather emergency helicopter landing area, following a \$50,000 donation from Mt Fyans Wind Farm.

The funding will streamline patient transfers by allowing emergency helicopters to land on a new hard surface at the Mortlake Recreation Reserve. This will provide an all-weather year-round emergency landing area.

Mortlake Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Lighting Project convener Mick Murphy OAM said the donation would put an end to ambulances being bogged when trying to transfer patients to emergency helicopters on the oval. "Currently emergency choppers have to land on the oval and this has presented several problems, including the ambulance being bogged and patients then having to be carried to the helicopter in rain and wind," Mr Murphy said.

"This new landing area will mean emergency transfers can be made much more safely, with the road ambulance now able to drive right up to the emergency helicopter.

"This \$50,000 donation from Mt Fyans Wind Farm will provide an off-oval landing area which will be easily accessed year-round. We are very grateful for their support, which has made this project a reality." [CONTINUED PAGE 2](#)



Mt Fyans Wind Farm donates \$50,000 to Mortlake helicopter pad

Ambulance Victoria Senior Team Manager HEMS4 (Acting) Ben Hespe said the initiative will help them to 'provide outstanding emergency healthcare every time'.

"It will certainly make it easier and safer for us to care for and transport patients, particularly at night and in inclement weather," Mr Hespe said.

"We thank you for helping to establish a safer and more reliable, all year, hard surface area which improves our response capability into Mortlake township itself and the surrounding region." Mt Fyans Wind Farm Project Director Giles Rinckes said the company was thrilled to support an important project that was a perfect fit with the company's community support framework.

"When we were approached by the working committee earlier this year, we saw this project as a prime opportunity to support a very important project for Mortlake and the surrounding community," Mr Rinckes said.

"We are committed to the Mortlake community and are very proud to be able to fund a service that will aid with emergency response in the Mortlake district."

The emergency helicopter landing area is the first part of the next project identified in the MRRCOM Master Plan for the Reserve. The Committee commenced seeking funding to achieve the Master Plan in 2015.

\$500 to Mt Shadwell Masonic Lodge

Congratulations to the Mt Shadwell Masonic Lodge, which will receive \$500 from the Mt Fyans Wind Farm.

We recently promoted an online survey to gauge opinions on a range of questions on the Mortlake area's priorities, including challenges and opportunities.

As part of our survey participants were able to nominate a community group or organisation that they would like to receive \$500 and Mt Shadwell Masonic Lodge was the successful nominee.

New Mortlake shop

Mt Fyans Wind Farm now has a shop in Dunlop Street, Mortlake.

Located in the former hairdressing salon next to J Golsworthy & Sons Home Timber & Hardware, the shopfront has been refurbished and is now open.

The shop will be manned by our new **Mortlake-based Community Liaison Officer, Fiona Woodhams**, with other staff members also visiting and working from the space (in line with COVID-19 protocols).



July and August opening hours

July

- Mon 13th 9am-2pm
- Tues 14th 9am-2pm
- Mon 20th 12pm-5pm
- Tues 21st 12pm-5pm
- Wed 29th 9am-2pm
- Thurs 30th 9am-2pm

August

- Wed 5th 12pm-5pm
- Thurs 6th 12pm-5pm
- Mon 10th 9am-2pm
- Tues 11th 9am-2pm
- Mon 17th 12pm-5pm
- Tues 18th 12pm-5pm
- Wed 26th 9am-2pm
- Thurs 27th 9am-2pm

Meeting Mt Fyans staff

As you will read in our adjacent story, the global Coronavirus pandemic has restricted our ability to visit the Mortlake district. However, we remain committed to engaging with stakeholders in and around the project area.

If you would like to engage with our Project Director Giles Rinckes, we are offering personal online sessions from the shopfront at a time convenient to you. Local Mt Fyans Wind Farm staff will meet you at the shopfront and facilitate an online meeting with Giles, who will be in the Mortlake area regularly (along with other Mt Fyans Wind Farm staff) when COVID-19 restrictions allow.

COVID-19

Woolnorth Renewables has continued working on securing planning approval for the Mt Fyans Wind Farm during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

While this has meant restrictions on staff movements and field work during recent months, we have actively undertaken desktop based work during this time.

With restrictions lifting we will continue to monitor government guidelines and follow company Covid-19 protocols to ensure we keep our employees, consultants and communities safe. If anyone associated with the project is in the project area, social distancing and federal and state government restrictions will be followed at all times.

Each person will carry their own COVID-19 kit, incorporating water-filled canisters, soap, paper towels, disposal gloves, disinfecting wipes and rubbish bags. Hire and company vehicles will be sanitised internally prior to return.

This is a constantly changing situation and we are able to adapt our work processes quickly in response to new government advice or outbreaks.

If you have any queries regarding our commitment to safety and the project during the COVID-19 pandemic – or any other project queries – please don't hesitate to contact us via our dedicated project hotlines: **1800 325 079** and info@mtfyanswindfarm.com.au.

