NEWSLETTER EDITION 11 | OCTOBER 2023

PROJECT UPDATE

Mt Fyans is located in Victoria's Southwest Renewable Energy Zone. When approved, the Mt Fyans Wind Farm will host up to 81 wind turbines, and generate around 400 megawatts, enough energy to power an estimated 280,000 homes – around all of the Victoria's Western districts, and the Ballarat and Bendigo regions.

The final design and layout of the Mt Fyans Wind Farm will be informed by outcomes of the planning process and continue to focus on minimising any impacts on the environment, cultural heritage and near neighbours.



Planning Permit Application Process Update

A Planning Panel and public hearing was convened by Planning Panels Victoria, to assess the project. As part of the process we heard from subject matter experts, Moyne Shire Council and members of the community. The Panel commenced on Monday 3 April and finished on Thursday 8 June.

At the panel hearing, technical experts spoke about:

- Bushfire management and firefighting around wind farms;
- Traffic impacts;
- · Landscape and visual impacts;
- Noise:
- Flora, native vegetation impacts; and
- Fauna with a focus on the Brolga and Southern Bent-Winged Bat.

On Friday 4 August, the Panel submitted their summary and recommendations to the Victorian Minister for Planning, for review and consideration. A formal decision on the project is expected to be made and announced by the Minister in the coming months.

For more information visit www.planningpanels.vic. gov.au/panels-and-committees/projects/Mt-Fyans-wind-farm-planning-permit-panel

To stay up to date on project news, sign up for e-updates at mtfyanswindfarm.com.au/news

What's happening?

While the planning process progresses, the Woolnorth team are continuing to work in the background.

- Mt Fyans Wind Farm is now registered as a participant in the National Electricity Market (NEM), and we are progressing with detailed grid modelling and protection studies.
- Design work on the electrical and civil aspects of the project will commence, when we have refined the technical requirements for turbines, substations, and control systems.
- We installed a 120m meteorological mast at a property within the project area in September. This will be used to verify the wind speed data already collected and provide insight of wind speeds at a greater height.
- We'll issue a wind turbine supplier tender in October 2023.
- We are pleased to announce Woolnorth Renewables has appointed GHD as Owner's Engineer to progress preconstruction work on the Mt Fyans Wind Farm project. GHD's portfolio focusses on making energy, water, and communities sustainable for generations to come.

Below: Woolnorth Development Team and GHD Project Team.



Community Engagement and Benefit Sharing

Woolnorth Renewables is committed to sharing the benefits of the renewable energy transition with host communities. We want to be part of a positive change and work with host communities, to deliver a long term legacy for the community.

Through ongoing consultation with the community, we have identified a few focus areas for benefit sharing:

- Youth education and retention in the region
- 2. Supporting the senior community
- 3. First Nations communities

To date, Woolnorth Renewables have contributed \$50,000 to the Mortlake community, funding an emergency helicopter landing site and night lighting at the Mortlake Recreation Reserve.

We are currently looking at more opportunities to support the Mortlake community through a pilot partnership program, before the long-term Community Benefit Fund comes into effect, contributing at least \$1,000 per turbine when 70% of the turbines are built and operational.

Speak to the Project Team

Drop-in to our Mortlake office on Mondays and Thursdays, from 9:30am to 2:30pm at 115 Dunlop Street, Mortlake.

Continuing activities

Visual screening for neighbours

In November 2020, the project team wrote to all residents within three kilometres of the project's boundary to offer no obligation visual screening. This was taken as an action to allow trees more time to grow and develop into an effective visual screen ahead of construction.

Visual screening planting at neighbouring properties has commenced and will continue, as further quantities of the specified tubestocks become available.

You can find out more or sign up for this no obligation offer, by contacting info@mtfyanswindfarm.com.au

International progress on decommissioning and recycling wind farm parts

We are researching and discussing options with waste management companies that are already recycling wind turbine blades in Europe and North America. Turbine blades can be recycled by shredding and grinding the blades into pebble sized pieces that can be used as raw materials in the cement manufacturing process.

Through this process, more than 90% of the weight of the blades is recovered:

- 65% in the form of a raw material, replacing sand, clay and other materials; and
- 28% as an alternative fuel, replacing coal to provide the energy needed for the chemical reaction in the cement kiln.

The cement produced by this method has the same properties and strength as traditional cement. Recycling decommissioned blades is just one way that manufacturers can manage waste at the end of a turbine's life (approx. 25 years).

How long until construction might start?

When the project is approved, we will progress detailed design and construction planning. All going well, construction will start in 2025.

Will farming continue at the site?

Absolutely, farming on the site will continue when the wind farm is operational. During construction, areas of farm and properties may need to be fenced off temporarily, for safety reasons. This will be managed in consultation with property owners.

Based on experience, the pasture lost to wind farm infrastructure is less than 1% of the farm involved.

How can I get involved in the project?

Individuals and businesses can get involved in the project by contacting info@mtfyanswindfarm.com.au

Tell us how you want to be involved, or any relevant services that you or your business may be able to provide.



Web. www.mtfyanswindfarm.com.au **Email.** info@mtfyanswindfarm.com.au

Phone. 1800 325 079

Shopfront: 115 Dunlop Street, Mortlake