

## 17 June 2016

## MEDIA RELEASE

## WATERLOO STAGE 2 WIND TURBINE DELIVERIES TO START THIS WEEK

A \$43 million project to extend the Waterloo Wind Farm is about to fulfil a major milestone with the first delivery of wind turbine towers expected this week.

Each of the six Australian-manufactured wind turbine towers will be delivered as four sections, with each section weighing 60 to 70 tonnes and stretching up to 27 metres in length.

Tower bases and lower sections will be delivered to site first, using specialist oversized transport capable of hauling such long and heavy loads.

Transport vehicles will travel to the Waterloo Stage 2 construction site using local roads approved by Clare & Gilbert Council and SA Police.

Waterloo Wind Farm General Manager, Mr Lindsay Ward, said the delivery of components was technically challenging, given their size and the terrain of the site on which they will be installed.

"Considerable planning and consultation has been pivotal to ensure delivery of Waterloo's six turbine towers is done safely and efficiently," Mr Ward said.

Planning for delivery of the wind turbine towers, 120 tonne narcelles and 57 metre-long blades commenced last year, to ensure we could delivery each item safely to site, with minimal disruption to local roads and traffic.

The six towers have been manufactured in Portland, Victoria, by specialist wind technology manufacturer, Keppel Prince.

Transport is being provided by Salisbury Downs-based heavy haulage transport provider, Rex Andrews Pty Ltd.

"Our approach has been to support the local and wider domestic economy wherever possible through the intentional purchase of locally-supplied goods and services," Mr Ward said.

"To date, the extension of Waterloo Wind Farm has injected over \$3 million into the local Mid North community - a project outcome we are genuinely pleased with," he said.

Turbine deliveries will arrive at site throughout June and July.

Safety is a key priority. All oversized transport vehicles will travel with a safety escort car and will travel at low speeds given the weight and length of their loads. SA Police will also accompany each transported load.

Waterloo has set up an SMS Alert service to notify drivers of possible traffic delays.

"Residents are encouraged to register to receive timely text updates by sending their name and mobile number to us at 0408 547 869," Mr Ward said.

Construction of the wind farm extension is expected to be completed by December.

Adding six new turbines to the Waterloo wind farm will increase the renewable energy it can produce to over 130 megawatts, enough to power over 50,000 homes.

For further information, visit <u>www.energyaustralia.com.au/waterloo2</u>

ENDS



## Waterloo Wind Farm Stage 2 – BACKGROUND

The location of the Waterloo Wind Farm is ideal for generating high volumes of energy from the natural wind resource.

Additional turbines at Waterloo were always envisaged as a part of the original development project. Now, after five years of solid performance from the wind farm, its owners have elected to build additional turbines to increase the amount of clean energy the wind farm can produce.

By adding to the existing wind farm – and using infrastructure already in place - we gain more clean energy with less impact on the local community and the environment.

Construction of the Waterloo wind farm extension will be managed on behalf of the wind farm by a specialist team with support from the existing EnergyAustralia asset management team.

Palisade and Northleaf Capital, Waterloo's joint-owners, will fund the \$43 million construction project.

During construction, the existing wind farm will continue to be run by the staff onsite who will also be available to respond to queries from the community.