

WATERLOO EXTENSION PROJECT UPDATE



Construction of six new turbines at Waterloo Wind Farm is almost complete.

To design, deliver and raise new turbines is a major engineering exercise. Despite potential challenges, works have gone well – with a good track record of worker safety and minimal disruption to residents in the area.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and support while construction of Waterloo Stage 2 has been underway.

What does it take to build a wind farm?

Each of the six new turbines uses some of the best technology in the world for producing clean, renewable wind energy. Designed and manufactured in Denmark, the six turbines also feature towers made in Australia.

More than 500 truckloads of heavy equipment, turbine parts and construction materials have been delivered to site during the last nine months – including from local suppliers like the Waterloo quarry. In the process, around \$3.5 million has been invested into the Mid North economy.

Transport has been managed with the Clare and Gilbert Valley Council to minimise the impact on local roads and reduce delays for local roads users.

Onsite, construction teams have installed each turbine using heavy-lift cranes. Planning has been critical in the lead up to this process. As a result, only a few days of wet, windy weather caused delays to construction and importantly, no major safety incidents were recorded.



More than 500 truckloads of heavy equipment, turbine parts and construction materials have been delivered to site during the last nine months

Safety

Employees and subcontractors working onsite are to be congratulated for their impressive safety record. To date, 40 workers have spent over 34,000 hours onsite helping to build our new turbines. To have completed such a complex task with only one minor incident (a laceration) is an excellent indication of the attention we all give to our stringent safety management procedures.

Revegetation program

A native planting program is underway to reduce the visibility of Waterloo Stage 2 for nearby residents.

Residents living within two kilometres of Waterloo Stage 2 have been invited to participate. Plant species will be native to the region to ensure a visual match with existing vegetation. Plantings will be done at no cost to eligible residents.





Roads maintenance

Throughout construction we have been monitoring the condition of local roads. Now that oversized truck deliveries are largely complete, work to re-grade roads and repair any spot damage has begun. Roadside plantings are also underway to provide replacement vegetation in keeping with our building works approval conditions.

Ongoing engagement

Many residents make contact with us to ask questions, pay compliments or raise concerns. We've answered all enquiries we've received and appreciated the opportunity to develop better relationships with the local community in the process.

Community engagement will continue as normal when construction is finished. The Waterloo Wind Farm Community Liaison Group has been running now for over five years. This independent group remains the most important way for us to meet and talk with local residents and share news of what we are doing onsite.

If you are considering joining the Group, please contact the facilitator, Georgina House on 0414 454 105. The last meeting for 2016 will be in late October.

TV Reception Study

As a further effort to reduce the impact of the wind farm, a study of TV reception signal in the area has been conducted. In some instances, wind turbines can affect television reception nearby. This study will establish existing reception quality of digital television signals within houses up to five kilometres from the wind farm. Tests will not look at mobile phone or radar signals.

Once these studies are completed, we will work with residents where a noticeable deterioration in television signal has occurred. Further details of the study are available at www.waterloowindfarm.com.au

TIMELINE

Oct

Electrical connection works onsite
Site remediation, local roads maintenance

Late Oct

Final 2016 Community Liaison Group Meeting

Nov-Dec

First energy export from Waterloo State 2 likely
Civil construction works completed

Nov – May 2017

Revegetation program

