



Flyers Creek Wind Farm Newsletter September 2013

PURPOSE

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information and updates to the local community with regards to the proposed Flyers Creek Wind Farm project and renewable energy in general. The suggestion for a regular newsletter came from the Flyers Creek Community Consultation Committee set up last year. While there have been regular updates about the project in local media, it was suggested that a newsletter to the local community would also prove to be useful and informative.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The original Flyers Creek Wind Farm proposal was for 46 wind turbines. However, after careful consideration of community input during the Open Days and afterward, three turbines have been deleted from the project to reduce the potential amenity impacts of the wind farm, as can be seen on the map on page 2. The Flyers Creek Wind Farm is now proposed to consist of 43 wind turbines.

An 800+ page Environmental Assessment was completed in 2011 and was put on public display in late 2011. Over one hundred submissions were received, some supporting the project and some objecting to the proposal. The proponent reviewed each of the submissions in detail and prepared a formal Response to Submissions report in 2012.

The final version of the Response to Submissions report is now available for review on the Department of Planning & Infrastructure's (DPI) website. The Response to Submissions report is organised into topics (i.e. noise, visual, traffic etc.), so one can easily find the subject(s) of most interest to them.

At the back of the report is a list of submissions with a series of codes beside them. The codes refer to sub-sections in the Response to Submissions report thereby enabling submitters to readily find the response(s) to the issues they raised. A Preferred Project Report is also found at the same website which outlines the proposed changes to the project since the Environmental Assessment.

<http://goo.gl/1ocdVA>

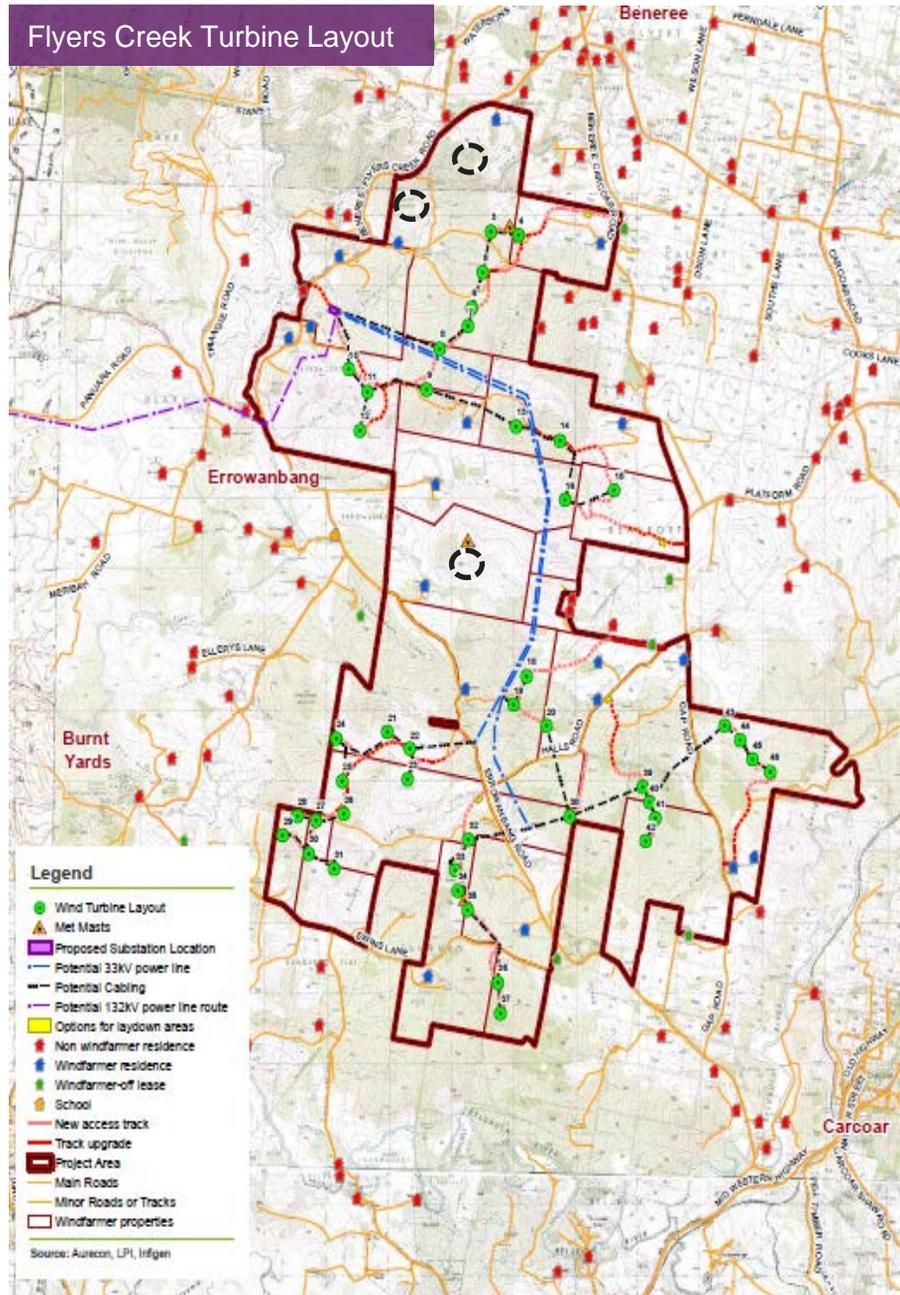
NEXT STEPS

- 1** The NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure (DPI) is preparing their planning assessment report.
- 2** Once the planning assessment report is completed, it is forwarded to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) for a final determination.
- 3** The PAC will convene a public hearing in the district to provide community members with the opportunity to voice their support and/or concerns about the proposed project.
- 4** The PAC will make a final determination approving, or rejecting, the planning application.



INDUSTRY NEWS

- According to the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), over 30% of South Australia’s electricity was supplied by wind and solar energy last fiscal year. For some periods of time, over 80% of South Australia’s electricity demand has been met by wind energy. AEMO has also stated that greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation in SA have declined by 25% over the past five years.
- IPART, the independent electricity price regulator in NSW, determined in May of this year that the cost of the Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET) scheme is \$40/year per household. This is the only ‘subsidy’ that wind farms in Australia receive, so the total additional cost to households to build and operate wind farms is less than \$3.50/month.



 Locations of deleted wind turbines

FLYERS CREEK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

In the second half of last year, a Flyers Creek Wind Farm Community Consultation Committee (CCC) was formed. After advertising in the local newspaper and emails to several groups, five community members joined the committee. A representative from Blayney Shire Council and Infigen Energy also attend the meetings. The CCC meets roughly every 3 months and are open to the public. Meeting minutes are available on the Infigen Development Project website

<http://www.infigenenergy.com/our-business/development-pipeline/wind-energy-projects.html>

CENREC



The Central NSW Renewable Energy Co-operative (CENREC) began operations last October. CENREC's primary purpose is to enable community members to invest in, and profit from, local renewable energy projects. CENREC's first proposed investment is to buy one of the Flyers Creek wind turbines should the project proceed to construction. CENREC also plans on enabling investment in solar energy projects. CENREC was recently awarded a grant by the NSW Government's Office of Environment and Heritage to 'overcome barriers & generating opportunities for Community Renewable Wind Power in Central West NSW.' More information on CENREC can be obtained at www.cenrec.com.au

PROJECT FACTS



Turbines	43
Approximate Capacity (with 3MW turbine)	129MW
Annual Generation	~400GWh
Equivalent # houses powered per annum	55,000
Greenhouse gas abatement (tonnes CO ₂ equiv)	350,000
Equivalent # of cars removed from the road	~80,000





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Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to meet and discuss the project:

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