

Ryan Corner Wind Farm

Project Status

- Wind farm planning permit and associated plans:
 - ✓ Moyne Shire Council and Department of Transport have confirmed their satisfaction with the Traffic Management Plans. The documents will be submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval.
 - ✓ The notice period relating to the planning permit amendment application has ended.
 - ✓ Cultural Heritage Management Plan for Youls Road has been submitted to Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation for assessment and endorsement.
- Connection application & agreements:
 - ✓ Connection application has been submitted to AEMO. A fresh application to be submitted by the end of the year.
 - ✓ Agreements on-going.

Activities on site

- Under progress:
 - ✓ Finalising project scheduling and access with associated landowners.
 - ✓ Completion of native vegetation surveys along the transmission line easement

Hawkesdale Wind Farm

Project Status

- Wind farm planning permit:
 - ✓ Moyne Shire Council and Department of Transport have confirmed their satisfaction with the Traffic Management Plans. The documents will be submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval.
 - \checkmark The notice period relating to the planning permit amendment application has ended.
- Connection application & agreements:
 - ✓ In process of submitting Connection application to AEMO.
 - ✓ Agreements on-going.

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Activities on site

- Under progress:
 - ✓ Geotechnical investigations on the Collector Substation bench area completed.
 - ✓ Progress on cultural heritage complex survey along the transmission line easement.
 - ✓ Finalising project scheduling and access with associated landowners.

Transmission Line and Tarrone Terminal Station

- ✓ Cultural heritage assessments are completed along the transmission line alignment to support the develop of cultural heritage management plans for the project. Over the coming weeks, we will review the outcomes of the cultural heritage assessments to determine if additional micro siting of poles will be required.
- ✓ Geotechnical investigations are complete for the Hawkesdale collector substation
- ✓ GPG, AusNet and AusNet's construction partner, CPP, will be meeting transmission line host landowners to finalise construction access.

Further information for both projects

Community Engagement and Benefit Sharing Plan

✓ Community Engagement Committees

The Ryan Corner Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee (CEC) did not meet in October, the next meeting is scheduled for November. Minutes from all CEC meetings are available on the Moyne Shire web site, from CEC members or please contact Debra Dumesny on 0428 867 646 or by email debra.dumesny@globalpower-generation.com.au to request a copy of the minutes.

We encourage you to contact a CEC representative if you wish to bring concerns to the CEC for discussion, or if you wish to be included on the distribution list for the confirmed minutes and updates.

Contact details for your local community members can be found by contacting the Moyne Shire Council.

✓ New Websites

New websites are currently being developed for both Ryan Corner and Hawkesdale Wind Farms by Ballarat-based Hstudios.

In the meantime, additional information about both projects is available on the GPG Australia website:

http://globalpower-generation.com.au/

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Local Accommodation for Construction Workers

As construction commences, temporary accommodation will be required for workers. If you have a property that could be used as temporary accommodation for workers, please contact our Community Engagement Officer, Debra Dumesny at debra.dumesny@globalpower-generation.com.au.

Local Services for Construction

GPG is working with its contractors to identify services that may be able to be contracted locally during construction.

GPG and its contractors' preference is to work with local suppliers and manufacturers where possible, provided they can meet a range of deliverables including safety, quality, reliability, timeframe, and cost. Vestas is proud to share that the services related to transportation, crane work and installation of the projects heavily engage with local workers. In addition to this, the long-term maintenance and operation of the Ryan Corner and Hawkesdale Wind Farms will create several regional and permanent jobs.

If you are interested in offering your services, please contact our Community Engagement Officer, Debra Dumesny at <u>debra.dumesny@globalpowergeneration.com.au</u>.

Employment Opportunities Creation

Please contact our Community Engagement Officer, Debra Dumesny at debra.dumesny@globalpower-generation.com.au if you are interested in working at Ryan Corner or Hawkesdale Wind Farms.

Our main contractor, Vestas, is always looking for skilled and passionate people to join our world-class team. Learn more about our upcoming opportunities at https://careers.vestas.com/.

Native Vegetation Surveys

Native vegetation surveys are conducted on all areas of the wind farm site and the transmission line which are impacted by the project footprint (this includes the proposed design/alignment of the project and the associated construction footprint). The assessments are undertaken in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Removal, Destruction or Lopping of Native Vegetation* (Native Vegetation Guidelines) published by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) in December 2017. *Native vegetation is defined in planning schemes as 'plants that are indigenous to Victoria, including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses' The Guidelines further classify native vegetation as a patch or a scattered tree. These classifications assist in measuring the value of native vegetation and assessing its removal. (Native Vegetation Guidelines, DELWP 2017)* Where targeted spring surveys are identified to be required to confirm the presence or absence of native vegetation, they are undertaken in October – December depending on the month most appropriate to the species.

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The outcome of the native vegetation assessments influences the detailed design of the project. This includes moving access tracks, turbines, transmission poles, and buildings ancillary to construction away from native vegetation wherever possible. The native vegetation assessments are then updated to reflect the final project design and calculate the associated impacts on native vegetation that cannot be avoided. This includes any indirect impacts caused to wetlands. A planning permit application is then submitted to the Minister for Planning requesting approval to impact the native vegetation that could not be avoided. The application is referred to the Regional Environment Portfolio at DELWP (Barwon South West), as a referral authority, to review the adequacy of the assessments. Feedback provided by DELWP Environment is addressed prior to the Minister for Planning deciding on the planning permit application. If the native vegetation is approved to be impacted:

- ✓ An area of impact is specified in the approval and the specific patches/trees approved to be impacted are confirmed.
- Offsets are secured as required by the associated planning permit and the abovementioned guidelines. Offsets are secured by the proponent requesting permission to have similar native vegetation planted nearby to replace the disturbed amount. This offset plantation is required to be managed well into the future. The applicant can plant and manage the offsets themselves, or can purchase them from a government registered and approved broker to manage on their behalf.
- ✓ A Native Vegetation Plan is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the associated planning permit. This plan includes the final Native Vegetation Assessment and associated mapping to clearly identify to contractors which native vegetation is permitted to be removed and which native vegetation must be avoided. The plan includes measures required to be implemented for the successful avoidance of native vegetation that is not approved to be impacted. This plan forms part of the planning permit and any noncompliance with this plan is breach of planning approval.

Contact us

Hawkesdale Office

Please phone, email, or visit us if you have any enquiries. A sign is placed on the nature strip outside the office when the office is open. Office hours are 9AM – 5PM, weekdays. At times, the office may be unattended, please contact beforehand if you wish to visit.

Contact Debra on 0428 867 646 or by email debra.dumesny@globalpower-generation.com.au



How to be included on the Email list

To be included on the distribution list for our newsletter and updates via email, please contact our Community Engagement Officer Debra on 0428 867 646 or by email debra.dumesny@globalpower-generation.com.au.

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