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**MEDIA RELEASE:**

**The Victorian Minister for Planning approves the extension of time for Ryan Corner and Hawkesdale wind farm project planning approvals, enabling Early Works construction to commence in early 2012**

Union Fenosa Wind Australia is progressing its plans to build two wind farm projects in south west Victoria, and the company has today received an extension of time for its Planning Permit Approval. The extension enables the company to proceed with the Early Works construction that it plans to commence in early 2012.

The Victorian Minister of Planning, Matthew Guy, has approved the extension of time in accordance with the " Transitional Arrangements" which form part of the Victorian Government's VC82 policy. The VC82 policy ensures that approved and advanced projects like Ryan Corner and Hawkesdale, which represent a substantial investment in renewable energy infrastructure in the State of Victoria and the Moyne Shire/South-West Region, can progress to the construction stage.

The extension enables the company to proceed with Early Works construction that it plans to commence in early 2012. The Early Works construction will include a VicRoads-approved entrance to the site from public roads, a site compound for the location of the Site Management Team offices, and part of the internal access track network. Union Fenosa Wind Australia has selected Portland-based GR Carr Construction to construct and deliver the Early Works package at both Ryan Corner and Hawkesdale sites.

Union Fenosa Wind Australia's Managing Director, Domingo Asuero, said " we're looking forward to continuing to work constructively with the Minister's department and the Moyne Shire Council to ensure that the staged construction of these substantial renewable energy projects are delivered in a manner that is respectful of, and responsive to, the priorities of the local community" .

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