

Berrybank Wind Farm

Project Update

Following the Berrybank Wind Farm Information Day in late 2008, Union Fenosa Wind Australia (UFWA) and the project team have been building on previous studies undertaken to finalise the planning application for the proposed wind farm.

Using the information gathered from the Information Day, subsequent stakeholder discussions and further on the ground investigations the assessments which are required to formally assess a planning application for a wind farm have been concluded. This includes investigation into the following areas;

- Economic and Social Impacts
- Visual and Landscape
- Noise
- Flora and Fauna
- Aviation
- Transport
- Telecommunications
- Fire Risk
- Shadow Flicker
- Heritage
- Geotechnical
- Cumulative Effects



In February, further consultation took place with the local community with representatives of UFWA conducting door knocks at nearly 70 properties in and around the proposed wind farm site. This was undertaken to assist in providing further information on the project to local residents and to discuss any questions people had about the project.

Following the door knock, the proposed turbine layout has been prepared in association with finalising consultant reports. A planning application was lodged with the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) and Corangamite and Golden Plains Shire Councils on the 17th July 2009.

The Application contains a town planning report which outlines the proposal and assesses it against Federal, State and Local policies and regulations relevant to a wind farm.

Specialist reports are summarised in the town planning report and separately provided in the appendices.

Next Steps

The application is now with the Local and State Government for preliminary review. Once this is completed, further information may be requested if there are certain matters which the Government feels should require more detailed assessment.

The proposal will then be placed on public exhibition for 6 weeks where the community and stakeholders have the opportunity to have their say on the project. Once the planning application is placed on public exhibition, interested stakeholders are invited to make a submission. Notices will appear in the local newspapers and letters sent to neighbours to advise that the exhibition period has commenced.

Copies of the planning application report, wind farm plans, and supporting reports will be available from the UFWA website, DPCD (Geelong Office), Corangamite Shire and Golden Plains Shire Council Offices. The submissions received will assist in informing the independent panel who will provide review of the proposal in its entirety.

The independent panel will consider the planning merits of the proposal by undertaking a thorough assessment of all the issues outlined above. This panel will conduct a public hearing at a location close to Berrybank which offers an opportunity for the public to make verbal submissions.

Following this the Panel will make recommendations to the Minister for Planning at which time the Minister will make a final decision. If a permit is issued, it is likely to be conditional on the preparation of further studies and detailed plans.

Key stats of the proposed Berrybank Wind Farm

Number of Turbines: Approx 100.

Electricity generation capacity: Approx 180-250 MW.

Number households supplied: Approx 170,000 Households.

Investment: Approximately \$480 Million.

Jobs: Up to approximately 240 full time equivalent jobs during construction and 25 for maintenance and operation for the life of the project.

Environmental Benefits: Displaces 910 thousand tonnes of carbon a year or the equivalent of taking 210,000 cars off the road.



Project Benefits

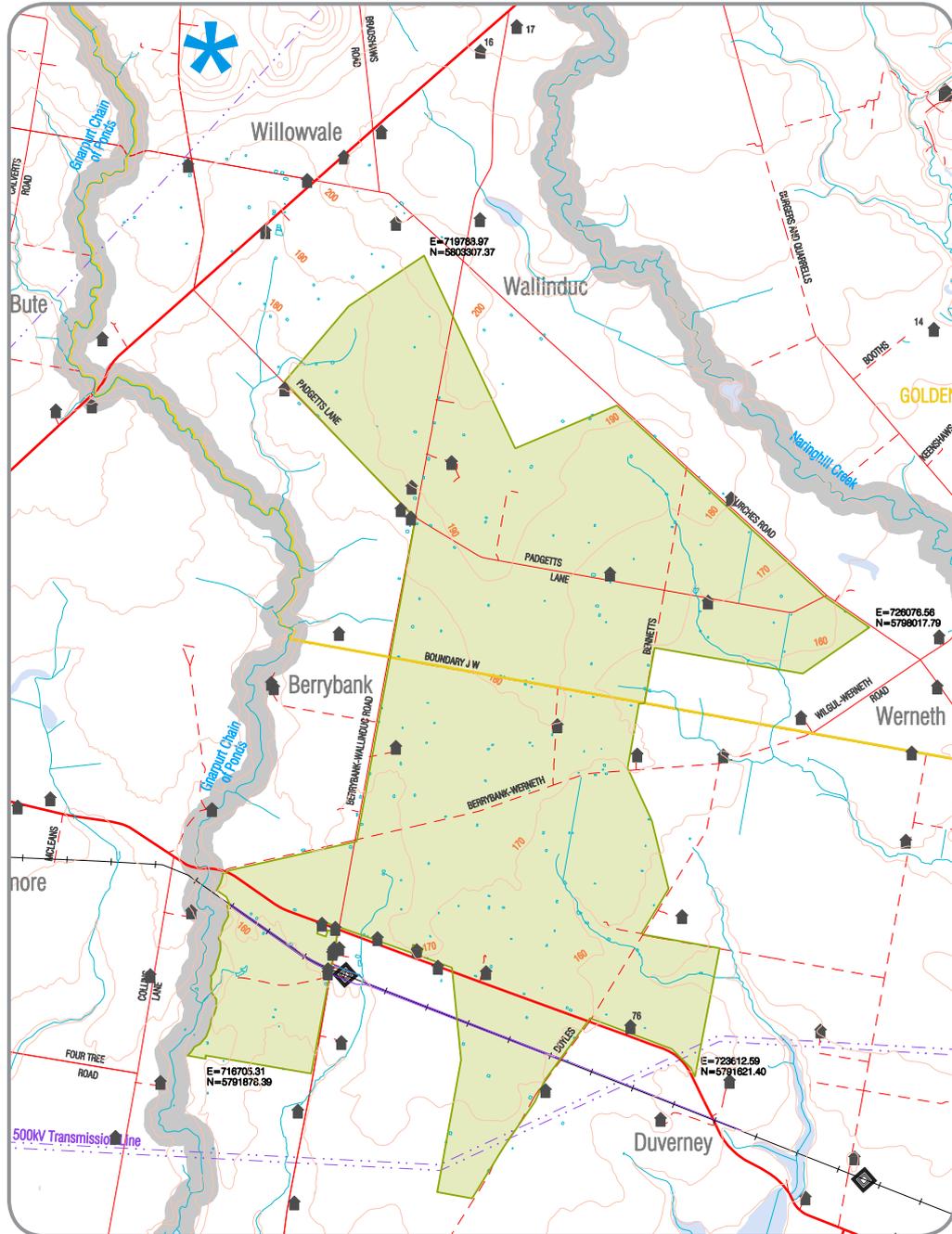
The Berrybank wind farm (if approved) will bring significant environmental, social and economic benefits to the Berrybank locality, the wider region, and the State of Victoria.

Environmentally, the wind farm will displace up to approximately 911,000 tonnes of carbon per year and assist in attempts to reduce the dangerous impacts of climate change. It will power up to approximately 171,000 households per year (or 1/2 Million people), equivalent to the population of Ballarat, Bendigo, and the entire Western District and Barwon regions.

Economically, the wind farm will invest \$484 million into the economy with a significant portion locally. It will also create up to 240 jobs in construction and 25 in operation. Socially, the wind farm will directly fund community enhancement projects, upgrade local roads, address the regions population decline, and position the area as a leader in renewable energy industries.

Roads proposed to be upgraded include;

- Berrybank-Wallinduc Road - Widening the existing pavement from 3.6m to 6.2m with 1.5m unsealed shoulders between the Hamilton Highway and the main site entry immediately north of the Berrybank-Werneth road.
- Foxhow-Berrybank Road - Establish a consistent 2.0m shoulder (0.5m sealed, 1.5m unsealed) between the Hamilton Highway and site entry.
- Doyles Road - Widen and seal the existing traffic lane (from 3.0m to 3.5m) and establish a consistent 2.0m shoulder (0.5m sealed, 1.5m unsealed) between the Hamilton Highway and site entry.



Wind Farm Site Area

Contact



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