

Welcome to the second edition of the Waubra Wind Farm newsletter. This newsletter provides information updates about the Waubra Wind Farm Project approximately 35kms North West of Ballarat. It is produced on a regular basis. Copies of the newsletter are inserted in the Pyrenees Advocate and are available at the offices of the Pyrenees Shire Council and the City of Ballarat.

Civil construction works well under way



Pouring concrete blinding for a turbine foundation

Civil construction works are well underway for all 128 turbines. The civil works include construction of access tracks, turbine hardstands and turbine foundations. This work is being carried out by Acciona Energy in conjunction with Leighton Contractors Proprietary Limited.

Acciona Energy Construction Manager, Mr Bruce Payne said, "We

are very pleased that construction works are progressing well. Leighton Contractors are doing a great job working with us to deliver the first important phase of this exciting wind farm project. We have built about two thirds of the internal access tracks and we have started constructing turbine foundations and crane hardstands."

Civil and earth works are expected to be completed in August this year. →

"We are using local construction and manufacturing skills and have sourced local equipment and materials."

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Construction in progress A turbine access track being built (above), the main pour to a turbine footing (below left) and checking the steel frames for a turbine foundation.

This will be followed by electrical works and the first wind turbine is expected to go up late this year or early 2008.

“We are using local construction and manufacturing skills and have sourced local equipment and materials wherever possible” Mr Payne said. Currently more than one hundred people are working on site. Approximately 70% of the workers are local employees from

Waubra and surrounds, either working directly for Leighton Contractors or for regional businesses that are involved as subcontractors.

Construction of the wind farm is expected to create around 200 jobs at its peak and approximately 30 permanent on-site jobs for its operation plus office and management support staff.

“We have built about two thirds of the internal access tracks and we have started constructing turbine foundations and crane hardstands.”





Cultural heritage excavation

Archaeological excavation site (above); Tim Kennedy from the Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative sifting soil for artefacts and some of the items found (below)

Identifying and protecting cultural heritage artefacts and items at the Waubra wind farm site has been an important part of the construction phase. Surveys were carried out by archaeologists together with cultural heritage monitors from the Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative to locate and record any artefacts and identify potentially sensitive areas. The Waubra area has been used intensively for agriculture in the last 200 years and it was initially thought that much of the cultural heritage would have already gone.

It was with great interest that the team discovered many artefacts at one of the wind turbine locations. Sub surface testing revealed

a concentration of artefacts which was thought to extend right across the hill top. Excavation of the 14 by 14 metre turbine foundation was carried out in January and March 2007 to gather important information on the cultural heritage site.

Excavation works uncovered over 2,000 stone artefacts, including blades and scrapers.

The survey works indicate that the hill was used by the traditional Wadawurrung people as a place



Excavation works in January and March 2007 uncovered well over 2,000 stone artefacts, including blades and scrapers.

for manufacturing stone tools and processing food. The site also would have provided an important look out point for indigenous people in the area and would have facilitated communication between groups.



Introducing the team

Many Waubra locals are now familiar with the Acciona Energy staff working on the wind farm project. At the CRG meeting it was suggested we provide further information on team members and the work they are doing, in this newsletter.

In future editions, we will profile individual team members, as we did with the Community Relations Coordinator Sandra Mack in the first newsletter. Many Acciona Energy staff members are currently working on the Waubra Wind Farm Project, the largest wind farm the company has ever built. Some staff are located at the wind farm site, while others based in the South Melbourne office, make regular visits to the project site.

Listed here are some of the members of the team.

At the Waubra project site

- **Bruce Payne, Construction Manager, has overall responsibility for the construction works.**
- **Phil Munari, Site Engineer is a contact for landowners, oversees access tracks and crane pads with specific reference to the suitability of the wind turbine installation process, and provides general assistance to the Construction Manager.**
- **Dave Rowan, Civil Works Supervisor oversees construction details of access tracks, reinforced concrete footings and electrical substations.**
- **Tony Brogden, Electrical Works Supervisor oversees cabling underground and above ground and substation electrical works.**

From the Melbourne Office

- **Stephen Crowe is a civil engineer who manages the design of roads and access tracks and is a contact for land owners.**
- **Kelvin Drummond, Project Delivery Manager is a contact for landowners, as well as implementation of the development plan and overall project coordination.**
- **Sandra Mack, Community Relations Coordinator is a contact for the community, produces the newsletter, manages the website and coordinates the Community Reference Group.**
- **Stephanie Rice, Environment & Stakeholder Relations Manager oversees communications and media relations, briefing stakeholder groups and managing community and environmental matters.**
- **Petra Stock, Environment Coordinator is implementing the construction Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and preparing the operation phase EMP.**
- **Glenn Wright, Wind Farm Facilities Manager is preparing for the operation phase and responsible for wind farm maintenance.**
- **Brett Wickham, Project Director is responsible for the overall delivery and management of the project.**
- **David Gianelly, Engineering Manager is responsible for the design and procurement of the electrical substations, underground power cables and overhead power lines.**
- **Marcus Dowling, Project Engineer supports design and construction of the wind farm through managing all GIS mapping and is a central source for information.**
- **Joe Hallenstein, Electrical Engineer is involved in the design and procurement of the electrical substations, underground power cables and overhead power lines.**



Members of the Waubra Wind Farm Project Team (from left to right) Dave Rowan, Bruce Payne, Phil Munari, Tony Brogden.



From the Melbourne office (front row) David Gianelly, Petra Stock, Sandra Mack, Marcus Dowling, Glenn Wright, and (back row) Joe Hallenstein, Kelvin Drummond, Steve Crowe, Brett Wickham, Stephanie Rice

Community Reference Group

As part of the Community Relations program, Acciona Energy recently set up a Community Reference Group (CRG) as a focal point for communication with the community during the construction period.

Expressions of Interest were received and the CRG has now been established as a forum to meet regularly

Lawrence Richmond, Nancy Dean, Marsha Gallagher, Karen Hinchliffe, Brendan McDonald, Ian Taylor, Sue O'Brien, Dawn Harrison, Douglas Hobson, Justin Clark, Jenny Porajski, Melanie Morris and Marie Loader. The City of Ballarat and Pyrenees Shire Councils are invited to observe the proceedings.

A positive first meeting was held

Council to ensure the conditions of local roads are maintained. Line marking has been renewed and additional signage has been put up to improve public awareness and safety of increased traffic.

Construction Manager Bruce Payne explained that the Waubra Wind Farm is a big project and that managing the large number of construction vehicle



First meeting of the Waubra Wind Farm Community Reference Group

with the Acciona Energy construction team. "We were very pleased to see community members expressing interest in forming a CRG to relay any issues and receive information updates about work happening at the wind farm site", Community Relations Coordinator, Ms Sandra Mack said.

"The purpose of the CRG is to enable members to raise issues at meetings and share information with people in the community. CRG members are also encouraged to relay comments and ideas from the community back to the project team" Ms Mack said.

The group is made up of people with a range of interests, including land owners neighbouring the site and members of community organisations.

The members of the group are:

One idea was to organise activities for regional schools to educate students about renewable energy and wind farms.

on 17 April at the Waubra Recreation Centre, which was attended by CRG members and Acciona Energy staff.

During the meeting Construction Manager Bruce Payne from Acciona Energy gave an update on the progress of the current civil construction works and outlined timeframes for future works until the Waubra Wind Farm will start operating.

CRG members raised some concerns related to construction activities. The two main concerns were the effects of increased vehicle movements on the quality of roads and on road safety. Acciona Energy staff confirmed that we are working with the

movements (up to 400 daily) has been an ongoing point of attention. "Acciona Energy and Leighton Contractors are very aware of the potential impacts of the construction traffic and are working to minimise disruption for the local community", he said.

As a result of the CRG meeting, Acciona and Leighton Contractors addressed the issue of road safety again at the fortnightly on-site Safety Committee. There it was decided to deal continuously with the issue by addressing it at the weekly toolbox meetings that are attended by all people involved in construction works on the Waubra Wind Farm. →

Acciona Energy's Community Relations Coordinator gave an update on community consultation activities that have been put in place, such as the Waubra Wind Farm Newsletter and a dedicated website — www.waubrawindfarm.com.au. CRG members proposed a number of additional activities. One idea was to organise activities for regional schools to educate students about renewable energy and wind farms. Other suggestions included site visits and information kits for schools. Acciona Energy appreciated the suggestions and agreed to further investigate the CRG members' ideas.

The next CRG meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 13th June.

Contact us

We welcome you to contact us for more information, send through your comments and find out more about the project.

Call the free public enquiry line
1800 283 550

Visit the Waubra Wind Farm Website
www.waubrawindfarm.com.au

Send an email to
info@aubrawindfarm.com.au

Fax your comments marked "Waubra Wind Farm" to **(03) 9686 6120**

Post written comments to
"Waubra Wind Farm"
Acciona Energy Oceania
Level 1, 95 Coventry St
South Melbourne, VIC 3205



Waubra Wind Farm project sustainability

Acciona Energy is a world leader in sustainable development and our aim is to make our projects as sustainable as possible from planning through to operation.

Acciona Energy and Leighton Contractors are working together to put sustainability into practice during the construction of the Waubra Wind Farm.

Sustainability initiatives during construction of the wind farm include:

- **Purchasing 100% Green Power for all site facilities**
- **Use of 100% recycled paper in the office**
- **Recycling of paper, toner cartridges, cans and bottles**
- **Collecting rainwater from construction buildings for use on site**

- **Use of bore water (i.e. for dust suppression and construction activities)**
- **Water Recycling at the Concrete Batching Plant**
- **Cultural Heritage Conservation and Protection through on site supervision and inspection**
- **Providing an environmental induction for all construction personnel before working on site**
- **Employing local workers, with currently approximately 70 staff from the Waubra area and surrounds (i.e. directly & through subcontractors)**

In addition, environmental aspects on site at Waubra are managed under the project's Environmental Management Plan. The plan covers aspects such as native vegetation, weeds and pests, water quality, wildfire prevention and waste management and sets out how these are managed on site to reduce any potential impacts on the environment. Weekly monitoring is undertaken to ensure that all works comply with or exceed good practice, legal requirements and the requirements of the Environmental Management Plan for the site.

