

WHITE ROCK Wind Farm



The local community welcoming the 59.5m long blade, the largest wind turbine blade in Australia.

Welcome to the first White Rock Wind Farm newsletter for 2017. This newsletter provides information and updates about the project. Further newsletters will be produced at regular intervals as the project progresses and milestones are achieved.

The 175 megawatt (MW) White Rock Wind Farm is located in the New England Tablelands approximately 20 km west of Glen Innes and 40 km east of Inverell.

Stage 1 will consist of 70 wind turbines along with the related civil and electrical infrastructure. The project is expected to be fully operational by late-2017.

What's happening? White Rock Wind Farm's first turbine blade travels through Glen Innes

On 5 December 2016, over 800 members of the local community of Glen Innes joined together with invited guests to celebrate the arrival of the first wind turbine blade for White Rock Wind Farm. The blade, weighing 16.5 tonnes and 59.5 metres in length, is the biggest wind turbine blade in Australia to date.

The event was a great opportunity for members of the local community to experience firsthand the absolute size and scale of the turbines to be installed at the wind farm.

John Titchen, Managing Director of Goldwind Australia, said the first blade delivery marks a significant milestone in the construction of the wind farm.

'Work will now start on the installation of 70 turbines that will provide clean renewable energy to power approximately 75,000 homes, more than all the houses in the New England area.'



Transportation of wind turbine components

Wind turbine blade, destined for White Rock Wind Farm



White Rock Wind Farm haulage route goes via New England Highway to Heron Street, Hunter Street, Grafton Street, Martin Street, Strathbogie Road, Tuttle Lane, Gwydir Highway and Ilparran Road to the project site.

Transportation of wind turbine components into the local area commenced in early December 2016 with a community event held in Glen Innes to welcome the arrival of the first blade.

It will take 700 oversize loads to deliver the turbine components from Newcastle, via the New England Highway to White Rock Wind Farm.

Component	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Weight (tonnes)
Blade (x3)	59.5	4	3.5	16.5
Hub	5	4.9	3.8	26.9
Nacelle Body	8.5	4.3	3.9	32.3
Generator	5.4	4.9	2.4	58.3
Tower (top section)	33	3.9	3.9	58.9
Tower (upper mid-section)	24.2	4.3	4.3	65.5
Tower (lower mid-section)	18.2	4.3	4.3	65.8
Tower (lower section)	12.1	4.6	4.6	65.4

Community Consultative Committee

The aim of the Community Consultative Committee is to provide a forum for open discussion between representatives of White Rock Wind Farm, the community, local councils and other stakeholders, and to keep the community informed of progress.

Meeting minutes and associated meeting materials are available on the project website and at the public libraries in Glen Innes and Inverell.

Two to three turbines will be delivered to the project site each week, so the operation will take around 30 weeks, aiming to be complete in mid-2017.

If you're interested in finding out more information on the timing of deliveries, please check the indicative schedule that is regularly updated on the project website or drop into the local shop front.

If you do encounter any oversize loads, please take care and observe all warning and speed restriction signs, including directions from escort vehicles and police. If you have any questions or concerns related to the transportation of turbine components please contact us using a communication channel listed at the end of this newsletter.

What are the loads?

For each wind turbine generator to be installed at White Rock Wind Farm 10 oversize deliveries of turbine components will be required. See the table below for the size and scale of the turbine of components.



Local Sponsorship

Sandra Royal, White Rock Wind Farm Local Representative, at the Glen Innes Campdraft.

We are pleased to have had the opportunity to provide financial assistance and support to the following recent initiatives and events in the local area:

Inverell Festival of Christmas Lights

Glen Innes History House – Re-roofing project

Northern Inland Innovation Awards



Steven Nethery, Goldwind Technical Service Manager, at the Northern Inland Innovation Awards with a representative from Macintyre High School, winners of the Research and Education award category.

Businesses in Glen – Spend in Glen promotion

Glen Innes Rugby League Club

Glen Innes Redfins 2016 Inter Club Swimming Carnival

Westpac Rescue Helicopter



Stuart Hitchcock, White Rock Wind Farm Project Site Construction Manager, presenting a donation to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter.

Red Range Sports Committee – Red Range Campdraft

Inverell Show Society – 2017 Show

Deepwater Jockey Club – Fashion on the Field

Glen Innes Rotary – Ride for Mental Health Research

Glen Innes Severn Christmas Luncheon Group – 2016 Christmas Luncheon

Glen Innes Jockey Club – Fashions on the Field

Australian All Schools Athletics Championship

Emmaville-Deepwater Swimming Club

Peter Cole Tennis Academy

Glen Innes Campdraft

Glen Innes Show Society – 2017 Show

White Rock Wind Farm Stage 2

The NSW Government has approved for the construction and operation of up to 119 wind turbines at White Rock Wind Farm. With Stage 1 (70 turbines) of construction now well underway, preliminary planning for Stage 2 that could involve up to 49 approved turbines or a modified Stage 2 that would be subject to further approval has commenced. White Rock Wind Farm will provide regular updates as Stage 2 progresses.

Alternative powerline connection update

White Rock Wind Farm has submitted an application to modify the WRWF project approval to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for alternative grid connection facilities, including:

- Additional 13 km of 132 kV transmission line
- Additional 132 kV/330 kV substation adjacent the existing 330 kV transmission line west of Swan Vale.

The proposed powerline route would run approximately 13 km west from the wind farm site to connect to TransGrid's 330 kV transmission line which runs between Armidale and Dumaresq. The alternative powerline would be the same size and configuration as the original approved powerline.

The permanent physical impact on the ground of the powerline is limited to the foundations for each pole along the powerline route, with concrete poles spaced approximately 200 to 250 metres apart. The poles would have a maximum height of approximately 35 metres.

The proposed powerline connection would enable full development of White Rock Wind Farm (119 approved wind turbines).

The associated application documents can be found online at the NSW DPE major project register, or in hard copy at the Inverell and Glen Innes Severn Council offices and the local shopfront. We welcome feedback during the public exhibition period: Tuesday 24 January 2017 to 21 February 2017.

Ongoing construction at White Rock Wind Farm

Construction at White Rock Wind Farm commenced in May 2016 and after 7 months substantial progress has been made. Over the next few months, works will be extended through additional earthworks in the southern part of the site, erection of the wind turbines and construction of the substation and associated 8 km of 132 kV transmission line. New construction partners such as TransGrid and Windhoist have commenced their work activities.

Preparation for the ongoing arrival of wind turbine components is well underway. Excavations and blinding of wind turbine sites, concrete pours and all other necessary preparation prior to the installation of turbines is ongoing. The installation of turbines has now commenced.

Construction work on site generally takes place during standard construction hours:

- Monday to Friday 7am – 6pm.
- Saturday 8am – 1pm.
- At no time on Sundays or NSW public holidays.

As construction ramps up, some out of hours work may be undertaken to complete time-sensitive works such as concrete pours or turbine installation. For this to occur, White Rock Wind Farm is required to adhere to the out of hours work protocol for the assessment and approval of works outside of the approved hours for construction, as outlined in the planning approval.

White Rock Wind Farm project team aims to minimise disruption to the local community and apologises if construction activities cause you some inconvenience. Regular updates on construction activities, including what to expect on roads around the site during construction are provided in the local paper, White Rock Wind Farm website and, radio broadcasts.

Construction is expected to continue until late 2017.

INDICATIVE TIMELINE



FACTS



70 turbines in Stage 1



\$30-\$40 million
into local economy during construction



1.9 million tonnes
of greenhouse gas emissions saved by 2020*



548 gigawatt hours
of electricity produced annually



75,000 homes annually
serviced by electricity produced*

Up to 200 jobs during construction
+
10-15 jobs during operations

* Figures calculated using the NSW Wind Farm Greenhouse Gas Saving Tool on the Office of Environment and Heritage website

Neighbouring wind farms

The abundance of natural resources in the New England Tablelands means that White Rock Wind Farm has two neighbouring wind farms in the local area.



Sapphire Wind Farm

Sapphire Wind Farm, developed by CWP Renewables Asset Management, comprises of 75 wind turbines. The project is located 18 km west of Glen Innes and 28 km east of Inverell to the north of the Gwydir Highway.

Construction of the project kicked off in December 2016 and work has now commenced establishing the site office, preparing the access roads and substation. The project is expected to be fully operational by mid-2018.

Further details on the project are available on the project website:

sapphirewindfarm.com.au



Glen Innes Wind Farm

The proposed Glen Innes Wind Farm, developed by NEXIF, is located 12 km west of Glen Innes. It currently consists of up to 25 wind turbines.

The project has received all necessary development approvals.

Further details on the project are available on the project website:

gleninneswindfarm.com.au



White Rock Solar Farm update

White Rock Solar Farm is a 20 MW solar photovoltaic development that is being proposed adjacent to White Rock Wind Farm. The development would form a pioneering hybrid wind-solar renewable energy facility in the New England Tablelands.

Construction on the project will likely commence in May 2017, with an aim to be fully operational by the end of 2017. Once completed, the solar farm will generate approximately 46,000 MWh of electricity in the first year of operation, enough to supply the equivalent of approx. 7,200 average NSW homes.

White Rock Solar Farm, together with a similar co-location project being constructed by Goldwind in the Southern Tablelands of NSW, are the first projects of their kind in Australia and will provide a blueprint across industry for similar projects to follow.

Co-location of wind and solar shares grid connection infrastructure and provides benefits, such as complementary energy generation profiles and reduced environmental impacts and project cost.



How can I find out more?

You can contact the project team at any time using the contact details below. We welcome comments and suggestions and are happy to talk through details of the project at any stage. If you would like to meet in person, please drop into the local shop front.

White Rock Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Shop front: 303C Grey Street,
Glen Innes NSW 2370
Open hours:
Mon – Thurs 10am to 3:30pm

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