



# Dundonnell Wind Farm

Newsletter  
Edition

18

July  
2019

## At a glance

**Project Status**  
Under construction

**Maximum Capacity**  
336MW

**Location**  
23km north-east of  
Mortlake, Victoria

**Investment**  
\$560m project

**Turbines**  
80 turbines

**Blade Tip Height**  
189m

**Host Landholders**  
12 wind farm host  
landholders over  
approximately 4500 hectares

**Transmission Connection**  
38km of 220kV overhead  
transmission line and a  
new substation

## Full steam ahead at the wind farm and transmission line

### Wind Farm

We reached a number of milestones over the last couple of months on the wind farm site. The Woorndoo-Streatham Road public road upgrade was substantially completed and will be maintained by the wind farm until the project is operational.

The concrete batching plant was fully commissioned, with the onsite facility now able to produce concrete for turbine foundation pours.

Turbine foundation construction continued with five excavations completed, more underway and others undergoing final preparations before the concrete is poured. The first turbine foundation was poured last week.

Deliveries of material and equipment have started and will be ongoing; the hold down bolts needed to secure the turbines to their foundations have arrived on site and are currently being assembled.

Other progress has included the continued expansion of the access track network into new areas of the wind farm, while trenching, cabling, conduit installation and other civil works have continued at the operations and maintenance facility and onsite substation. Formwork is currently being installed, with the concrete slabs being poured for the main transformers.

Material has continued to be extracted from the quarry for the use around the site, with the fourth blast carried out earlier in the month.



Aerial view of wind farm access track network progress

## Transmission Line and Blue Gums Substation

Transmission pole foundation construction activities have continued, with 76 pole foundations poured. Crews have worked steadily through the Castle Carey Road reserve which remains closed on a temporary basis in order to complete road remediation works.

Crews have now moved in the Mortlake-Ararat Road reserve and into private land near the wind farm. With all the poles now delivered to site, dressing and standing of poles continued with 28 poles now erected with more underway.

Transmission line construction crews rely on the use of the public road network to access the line corridor. The endorsed Traffic Management Plan considers these access points, which are summarised in the below. Expect to see work crews, plant and equipment as well as traffic control in place on these roads for the next few months as the various construction phases progress.

- Connewarren Lane
- Boonerah Estate Road
- Hamilton Highway

- Castle Carey Road
- Mortlake-Ararat Road
- Nine Mile Lane
- Woorndoo-Darlington Road
- Woorndoo-Dundonnell Road
- Post Office Lane

Using these roads, particularly through the winter months, can adversely impact road quality. To ensure the roads are kept in a safe and manageable condition we have engaged an independent road quality auditor who will advise where and when repairs are required. Separately, our contractors have been undertaking maintenance.

Aviation enthusiasts should look to the skies over the coming months as stringing works have commenced on the transmission line. A helicopter is being used to string the lines from pole to pole and has completed the first section.

Earthworks at the Blue Gums Substation are complete. Crews are now focusing on pouring slabs and installing cable ducts for the arrival of the transformer later this year.



Helicopter stringing the transmission line near the Blue Gums Substation.



Aerial view of Blue Gums Substation progress.

## All in a day's work at Clover Leaf Café

This newsletter we chat with Joan Hargraeves, who runs the Clover Leaf Café with her husband Rob. Thanks for chatting with us today Joan. You've lived in Mortlake a long time.

**What do you like about the town?**  
It's a great place to live, we've got some great friends here and we love the community. We've been here close to 40 years and have run the café for the last 13.

**What changes have you seen in the town?**

The first thing was the bypass from Geelong, that made a huge difference to the traffic coming through Mortlake. From a business perspective that really helped with through traffic and has brought increased expenditure in the town from outside

sources. Then came the power station, which lead to catering work. And from there we have the wind farms.

**Has the increased workload from the wind farms led to you employing more staff?**

Yes! There are at least four staff on at any one time and we also have a fully qualified chef. We've just put on a new apprentice chef directly due to the wind farm work – which we are very happy about – a young teenager that lives in town.

**How have the major projects around the town helped Mortlake?**

It's been huge. It's allowed us to put on more employees; we have five juniors that come in after school to help us clean up. It creates more jobs for mother's working, people paying

off their homes, other residents, and it's money from external sources.

Accommodation is full, people are renting homes that were vacant, the investment really has revolutionized the town. There's more of an atmosphere, more action up the street – it's just a good buzz.



## Mortlake office: 97 Dunlop Street

- Monday: 7am-11am • Tuesday: 9am-11am • Wednesday: 9am-11am
- Thursday: 9am-11am • Friday: 9am-11am

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