Transmission overhead line works underway

Work has begun on the 50-kilometre transmission line for the Salt Creek Wind Farm.

Project Engineer Simon Stitz said the transmission line would run from Salt Creek to Terang.

“They are pegging the pole locations at the moment and placing pegs where the poles will be installed,” Simon said.

“They are also commencing foundation construction for the poles.”

The activity at this stage is mostly on Grinters Lane and Tapps Lane, south of Mortlake.

“Soon you will start to see steel poles come in and be laid down prior to being erected on foundations.

“Poles will progressively be installed along the route in a systematic process over the next couple of months.

“There will be traffic management in place while these works are underway and reduced speed limits. Due to the length of the transmission line disruptions in the local area should only be for a limited period of time.”

Roadworks complete

Tar sealing of the Hexham-Woorndoo Road is now complete.

Project Manager John Rock said the works were completed later than initially planned.

“Due to the significant amount of rain there were delays,” John said.

“The longevity of the upgrade works would be diminished if it were sealed and the moisture content was too high. Only after successful quality tests was tar sealing undertaken.

“Works commenced at the end of August and there is now a five-kilometre stretch of the road that is fully tarred.”

The tarring of this stretch of road is a permanent legacy from the wind farm for the local community.

Facts and figures

• The Salt Creek Wind Farm will utilise 15 Vestas V126-3.6MW wind turbines and will produce about 172GWh of clean energy each year.

• This has the potential to power more than 30,000 homes, or more than double the number of homes in Warrnambool.

• It will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions through clean, renewable energy and contribute to Victoria’s renewable energy ambitions and the federal government’s 2020 renewable energy target.
Salt Creek Wind Farm

Frequently Asked Questions

How many turbines will be at the wind farm?
The Salt Creek Wind Farm will feature 15 V126-3.6MW Vestas turbines, each with a hub height of 87 metres. The project will have an installed capacity of 54MW.

When will it be completed?
We are on track to have the wind farm completed by July 2018.

How much power will it generate?
The project will produce about 172 GWh of clean energy each year. This is enough to power more than 30,000 homes, or double the number of homes in the south-west’s largest regional centre, Warrnambool.

How many jobs will there be during construction?
It is estimated there will be about 100 jobs during the construction period and up to four ongoing permanent jobs during the wind farm’s 25-year operation.

Will trucks be on the road when school buses are travelling?
At the beginning of each school term local and regional schools are consulted for current bus timetables on construction traffic routes. Suitable windows of inactivity have been and will continue to be arranged in agreement with the relevant schools and Moyne Shire Council.

What roads will be used?
All wind farm traffic must enter and exit the site from the northern end of the Woorndoo-Hexham Rd. The onsite quarry, water storage and batch plant for concrete will reduce road movements significantly during construction.

When will we see turbines being built?
We expect turbines to be built during February and through March.

How will large items, such as the turbines, be transported?
Towers and turbines will be transported via road from late January. Towers and turbines will be transported from the Port of Portland and Keppel Prince in Portland via the Glenelg Highway through to Lake Bolac, south to the Mortlake-Ararat Rd and continue onto the Woorndoo-Hexham Road.

What is the estimated timeline for construction?
It is expected the bulk of the 100-strong construction workforce will be on site by December. Major deliveries of blades, towers and nacelles are scheduled for February.

When will the roadworks be finished?
The tarring of the Hexham/Woorndoo Road is complete. The upgrade ran behind schedule due to the significant amount of rain received over recent months. The newly sealed road is a permanent legacy from the wind farm to the local community.

How can I find out more?
You can call Tilt Renewables on the Salt Creek Wind Farm 1800 number, 1800 122 823, email saltcreekwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com or visit our website at www.saltcreekwindfarm.com.au

Who do we contact in the event of an issue?
During construction please contact our site manager Jason Donohue on 0427 764 825.

Who is the company building the wind farm?
Vestas is the principal contractor for the project and Zenviron is the civil and electrical contractor. The project is owned and will be operated by Tilt Renewables.

Will there be a community fund?
Yes there will be a community fund. This is in addition to the Salt Creek and district scholarship fund and will be about $10,000 per annum for the 25-year duration of the wind farm. The community fund will become available once the wind farm is operational and will be administered by a local committee. Further information will be available over coming months.

For more information please visit the project website
www.saltcreekwindfarm.com.au
or contact the Project Team on
1800 122 823 or email
saltcreekwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com

Head office address:
25/535 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000

Estimated timeline

Please note this is an estimated timeline only and is subject to change

November
• Completion of Hexham/Woorndoo Road Upgrade
• Installation of access tracks, hardstands and foundations
• Installation of overhead line to Terang
• Construction of switch station at Terang

December
• Completion of access road, hardstand and foundation
• Installation of foundations
• Installation of substation
• Installation of meteorological masts
• Installation of overhead line to Terang
• Construction of switch station at Terang

January
• Installation of substation
• Installation of foundations
• Installation of overhead line to Terang

February
• Installation of underground cable circuits
• Commencement of major transport deliveries of blades, towers and nacelles
• Installation of substation
• Commencement of turbine installation
• Installation of overhead line to Terang
• Commissioning of switching station at Terang

March
• Completion of overhead line to Terang
• Energisation of substation
• Commissioning of electrical infrastructure
• Installation, energisation, commissioning and testing of turbines
• Commissioning of electrical infrastructure

April
• Installation, energisation, commissioning and testing of turbines
• Reliability testing

May
• Installation, energisation, commissioning and testing of turbines
• Reliability testing

June
• Practical completion of wind farm

www.saltcreekwindfarm.com.au