Project snapshot:

Turbines: 15
Efficiency:
A single modern turbine can provide electricity for more than 2000 households. This project has the potential to power more than 30,000 homes, or more than double the number of homes in Warrnambool.

Turbine specifications:
Each turbine will have a total tip height of up to 150 metres.

Installed capacity:
About 55MWs

Project Status:
Construction planned to start later this year.

Project investment:
$120 million

Construction period:
12-18 months

Employment:
80-100 during construction and up to four persons post commission

Tilt Renewables Renewable Project Developer Chris Righetti said this enabled the project to be progressed towards securing financial close (internal investment decision by the board for construction).

“We are extremely pleased to have the support of the Moyne Council,” Chris said.

“Our initial completion date was March 2018 and the extension has been sought to provide sufficient time to complete construction given the scale of the project, and to provide a buffer in the event something happens which is outside of our control.

“We are hoping construction will begin in the second half of this year, the date obviously depending on reaching financial close and conditions for site access during winter.”

Supply tenders for the turbines, transmission line and grid connection process are well advanced and we are hopeful of securing board approval for construction in the middle of the year. The head construction contractor will be announced at financial close.

“You will read elsewhere in this newsletter about our goods and services register and that we encourage people – particularly locals – to register their interest to be involved with the construction of the wind farm.

“We will be organising an onsite information day with the lead contractor once this announcement is made. It will be held prior to construction so people can express in person their interest in employment or providing services.”

Chris said there had been a plethora of reports completed to ensure the impact of construction was minimal. “We are pleased with the extensive preparation we have undertaken which provides us with a strong foundation for the construction process.”

The new permit sets the completion date as no later than September 15, 2019.
The Salt Creek Wind Farm Educational Fund is a $30,000 annual trust available to Woorndoo district residents. Generated by the Salt Creek Wind Farm, the fund will be available from the date of commissioning and for the 25-year life of the project.

Tilt Renewables Manager Stakeholders & Environment Rontheo van Zyl said the fund was proudly supported by the company, but was the brainchild of Salt Creek Wind Farm landholder Peter Coy.

“Peter understands the large costs associated with tertiary education for country students and wanted to help offset this cost for local families,” Rontheo said.

“This sparked his decision to donate $15,000 annually to the Salt Creek township via a scholarship fund.

“When Peter approached us at Tilt Renewables with his idea, we were immediately impressed with his generosity and what such a fund could do for the local community. We were also immediately aware of how well it fit with our community support philosophy. So we decided to match it dollar for dollar, taking the total fund to $30,000 per year.”

The exact structure of the fund is still to be confirmed, but will be administered by a board of local representatives and open to Woorndoo district residents.

Landholder Peter Coy said the fund was designed to help with the costs of tertiary education for a Woorndoo district student.

“It’s been created in direct acknowledgement of the increased costs associated with tertiary education when you come from the country,” Peter said.

“We’re very excited to create this for the local community.”

The fund will be established when the wind farm becomes fully operational and further details will be available closer to construction.

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Would you like to work at the wind farm?

We are pleased to report we have had substantial local interest in providing goods and services to the Salt Creek Wind Farm.

We will be announcing the lead contractor towards the middle of the year (hopefully before the end of the financial year) and expect an onsite information day to be held with the contractor soon after this announcement.

Once this announcement has been made there will be communication with those who have registered their details.

We encourage those who wish to submit an expression of interest to submit their details to our goods and services register at www.saltcreekwindfarm.com.au.

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Dundonnell Wind Farm

As you will have read in our last newsletter, Dundonnell Wind Farm has received its final planning permits.

While this is a huge step in the right direction, there is still work to be done on closing out other secondary consents, securing grid connection agreements and off-take agreements for someone to buy the power prior to construction commencing. There is also work being undertaken on progressing the wind turbine procurement process.

This process is expected to take about 12 months.

We have submitted our Connection Application to AEMO (Australian Energy Market Operator). This is a process that concludes with an Offer to Connect, which is formal acceptance from the network operator that our project is acceptable from a technical connection perspective. We are expecting this in the middle of this year.

We will engage with suppliers in a formal tender process later this year, which will deliver us a final WTG supplier for Dundonnell.

Our hope is still to reach financial close (internal board approval) around the end of this year with construction beginning in 2018.

It is expected that if progressed to construction the project will provide sufficient clean, renewable power for about 140,000 homes and save 700,000 tonnes of carbon emissions every year - the equivalent of removing 150,000 cars from our roads.

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For more information please visit the project website www.saltcreekwindfarm.com.au or contact the Project Team on 1800 839 661 or email saltcreekwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com

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