



23 August 2021

Dear CCC Members,

In light of the current circumstances surrounding NSW and the strict border closure between Victoria and NSW, including regional NSW, we thought it pertinent to send an email update while we wait until we can meet face to face.

As of the 4th of August, Tilt Renewables started its next chapter as part of the Powering Australian Renewables (PowAR) group. This change in ownership sees us part ways with the New Zealand side of our business. Mercury NZ has taken over ownership of our wind farm assets in NZ and delivery of all our NZ projects. For the Australian business however, PowAR, which is 100% Australian owned and operated, won't be changing how we operate, and we will remain as Tilt Renewables.

The incoming management are very supportive of the current developments and direction of the business, and its business as usual with a continued focus on our wind developments. The Rye Park Wind Farm remains a priority for Tilt Renewables and our new CEO, Geoff Dutailis, sees this as the first major investment decision following the acquisition.

About PowAR

PowAR was established in 2016 as a partnership between AGL and QIC on behalf of its managed clients QGIF and the Future Fund. The partners are long-term investors and have significant combined institutional capital with incumbent retail energy expertise as follows:

- QIC: independent investment manager owned by the Queensland Government with over A\$85 billion in assets under management (as at 31 December 2020);
- Future Fund: Australia's sovereign wealth fund with over A\$160 billion under management; and
- AGL: leading ASX-listed integrated energy business with over 4 million customers and a 11GW+ generation portfolio.

PowAR's assets prior to the sale include the 199 MW Silverton Wind Farm, 102 MW Nyngan Solar Plant and 53 MW Broken Hill Solar Plant in New South Wales, as well as the 453 MW Coopers Gap Wind Farm in Queensland. For more information on the sale, please refer to the attached Market Releases dated 14 March, 23 July and 3 August 2021.

Project Update

With respect to the Rye Park Wind Farm project, while the current border restrictions have been difficult to manage, we are in a fortunate position that our main contractors and consultants have a strong presence in regional NSW.

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We have been working closely with councils and regulatory agencies to finalise a large number of secondary consents and management plans, and will continue to work through these in the lead up to the anticipated construction of the Project.

We are busy finalising the details of the final project, including construction scheduling and contracts, which once finalised will mean we are committed to advancing the Project towards construction in the fourth quarter. We will advise once these are finalised, at which point we will also be able to provide more details on the anticipated construction start date and sequencing of works (e.g., where you will see us upgrading roads first).

We hope to meet with you in September to hold our regular CCC meeting and provide a more thorough update on the Project. However, in the meantime we have provided a brief update on what we have been working on below:

- Survey, investigation, detailed design work and detailed planning has been underway to prepare for the commencement of construction. Currently we plan to break ground on the public road upgrades later this year before works on the site proper commence.
- The public road scope has been carefully and diligently presented to and agreed with Council with due consideration given to Yass Street in Rye Park. In response to concerns received from the community we have included some augmentation of the bus stop and are working to integrate pedestrian usage of the road reserve between the bus stop and the Rye Park Primary school.
- Another community significant development is the upgrade and sealing of Cooks Hill Rd and the unsealed section of Rye Park – Dalton Rd. We have liaised closely with the infrastructure team at Upper Lachlan Shire to agree on an upgrade scope for the unsealed sections. We anticipate that the sealing works will be some of the first undertaken as part of the project.
- A topic that has consistently been raised with us is water supply. Our contractor has been in negotiations with local landowners regarding surface water in dams which given the recent rain presents an opportunity to obtain water without impacting others. The fall back, and in case surface water dries up during summer/the construction period, is licenced bores. We have undertaken investigation at several locations and are progressing the relevant licence applications. At this stage the importation of water will be limited to water for concrete production which requires high quality water to ensure concrete quality assurance standards are satisfied.
- Another topic of community concern has been the quarries being developed by ARDG. The quarries, if approved, present a significant opportunity to reduce the Project's impact on the local road network. They will see a significantly reduced number of trucks using roads through Boorowa and Rye Park. Two of the quarries are contained within land surrounding the site, i.e., they would supply the wind farm using only internal tracks. For those two quarries alone, it represents a reduction of several thousand truck movements.
- Our preferred Balance of Plant contractor, Zenviron, has leased the Rye Park Community Hall and will utilise the hall as a temporary base until the construction compound is established on site.

Covid-19 and Construction

As we continue the development of the project, and as we plan to commence construction, we are mindful of the Covid-19 situation, including the government restrictions.

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Based on the most current advice for NSW (where staff do not live in a 'LGA of concern'), planned works will be able to proceed as it is deemed 'construction' within a permitted area of NSW. These works will need to abide by a number of conditions:

- A COVID-19 Safety plan is required – see #9: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/rules/authorised-workers>
- Masks must be worn – see: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/rules/construction-rules-and-restrictions>
- If workers live in Sydney, they must be tested prior to working on site – see: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/rules/authorised-workers/greater-sydney-workers>

We will continue to monitor the situation closely. Should you notice any staff you believe are associated with the Rye Park Wind Farm not abiding by the rules, please let us know.

Construction Drop-in Information Sessions for Community and Contractors

Subject to government restrictions, we are planning on arranging two days where interested community members and businesses can drop in to learn more about the final project, meet our team and key representatives from our contractors, express interest in supplying goods or services on the Project and find out about employment opportunities.

We are seeking your feedback on where we should hold these. Please, can you provide your recommendations for the best locations for these days. We are working on the following approach:

- Day 1 – Contractor Day (a Friday): 10am – 7pm in Boorowa
- Day 2 – Community Day (a Saturday): 10am – 5pm in Yass OR Rye Park

An alternative schedule could be Boorowa for Day 1 and Rye Park for Day 2, instead of Yass, so local community members around the wind farm could minimise travel to the event. Again, your feedback would be appreciated.

At the contractor day we are keen to meet with local suppliers and contractors who would like further information about working on the Project and we will have representatives from our key contractors at the event. The community event will be aimed at communicating with local community members on the construction phase of the Project, so the community is well informed of the proposed activities.

As soon as we are able to commit to dates, we will undertake comprehensive promotion of the consultation days by way of:

- Newsletter – email and postal distribution
- Ads in Hilltops Phoenix, Young Witness, Boorowa News and the Yass Valley Times
- Council newsletters and noticeboards, where appropriate
- Website update

We are working on a list of employment opportunities with our delivery partners. We continue to provide them with new additions to the existing Goods & Services Register for the Project, so we encourage people to continue to submit their expressions of interest.

Should face-to-face sessions not be possible, we will ensure that information is available on the Project website in downloadable and printable format, and we will distribute fact sheets by mail and email.

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We encourage people to call us if questions or concerns come up for them when reading the fact sheets. In addition, we are looking into securing a short-term display at the Community Hall and on public notice boards. For interested contractors, we will connect them with either Tilt Renewables staff to discuss the Project, or our contractors to express interest in providing goods or services.

Construction updates via text message

Once we make a final investment decision on the Project, we will make available the option to opt-in to receive construction updates in real-time via text message. We hope this will provide the community with some certainty and preparedness while construction is underway without having to actively seek out relevant information on the Project. More on this will be included in the forthcoming newsletter.

Project Shopfront

We are planning to open a Project Shopfront during construction, and we would like your input on where this should be located. We are proposing either a location in Rye Park, such as the Rye Park Hall (continue the lease from Zenviron) or a location in Boorowa. Please let us know what you think.

We had a project shopfront for our Dundonnell Wind Farm in Victoria and found that we didn't receive enough visitors to warrant being open daily. We are therefore proposing that the operating hours be by appointment, and open for a regular day/time each week (which can be reviewed and communicated as we progress through construction). Our 1800 WE TILT number remains always open to receive any questions about the Project and construction activities.

New Starter

We had hoped to introduce you to Andrew Galland at July's postponed CCC meeting, however in lieu of a face-to-face introduction we thought we'll make an initial introduction in this update.

We are pleased to introduce Andrew Galland as the Site Health, Safety, Environment and Community (HSEC) Manager, working full time on the Project through the construction phase of the wind farm. Andrew is locally based in Crookwell and will spend most of his time in and around the region.

Andrew has worked in HSE roles on wind farm projects for most of the last decade and will strengthen our site team and HSEC leadership on site. Look out for him in the forthcoming newsletter!

Community Enhancement Funds

We have kicked off discussions with councils to work out the next steps towards promoting the call for expressions of interest to sit on and establish the three Community Enhancement Fund Committees. We'll circulate information on this as soon as we've confirmed the preferred approaches of each council.

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Next Steps

We will keep you updated as things progress into September with the aim to meet with you as soon as possible. In the meantime, if you have any questions, as always, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

I hope everyone is doing OK in the state-wide lockdown. Fingers crossed for 28 August.

Kind regards,

Martine Holberton

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