

WHITE ROCK
Wind Farm

WHITE ROCK
Solar Farm



View of White Rock Wind Farm turbines in various stages of installation from Jenkins Road

Welcome to first combined White Rock Wind Farm and White Rock Solar Farm newsletter. This newsletter provides information and updates about both projects. Further newsletters will be produced at regular intervals as the projects progress and milestones are achieved.

The 175 megawatt (MW) White Rock Wind Farm is 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.

The 20 MW AC White Rock Solar Farm will be located adjacent to the northern end of the White Rock Wind Farm, approximately 18 km west of Glen Innes. Development Consent was secured for the project in June 2016. The project was successful in the ARENA Large-scale Solar Competitive Round, awarded in September 2016.

What's happening?

White Rock Wind Farm turbine installations underway

In early February 2017, the first turbine installations for White Rock Wind Farm kicked off. 15 turbines have been installed to date visible from the Gwydir Highway.

The installations are Goldwind 121 2.5MW turbines which have an approximate hub height of 89.5m and a 150m tip height. The three blades installed at the top of each tower are the biggest in Australia to date, an impressive 59.5 m in length and weighing around 15 tonnes per blade. The whole turbine weighs in at over 400 tonnes.

White Rock Solar Farm reaches ARENA Financial Close

White Rock Solar Farm achieved the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) Financial Close Milestone on the 26 April 2017. White Rock Solar Farm is one of 12 projects set to receive funding as part of ARENA's multi-million-dollar large-scale solar competitive round.

Laura Jeffrey, Development Manager for the project, said all key prerequisites for ARENA funding have been met and full Project Financial Close is expected to be reached shortly.

Benefits of wind-solar hybrid projects

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

The White Rock Solar Farm project is designed to benefit significantly from sharing part of the wind farm infrastructure, including the grid connection and access tracks. Co location

of wind and solar provides numerous benefits such as complementary energy generation patterns, and reduced environmental impacts and project cost.

'The opportunity to share wind farm infrastructure maximises the use of available facilities without requiring construction of additional facilities elsewhere. This potentially unlocks over \$5 million of savings.' said Laura Jeffrey, Development Manager for the White Rock Solar project.

Gullen Solar Farm, Goldwind's wind-solar hybrid project currently under construction.

White Rock Solar Farm update

Construction of the solar farm is aimed to commence in July 2017, with a target for completion in January 2018. The project expects to employ up to 75 people on site at its construction peak and three people as ongoing operational and maintenance staff.

Like the White Rock Wind Farm, the project will launch a Local Business Participation Program as a key initiative to identify capacity in the local community and maximise opportunities for local suppliers to participate in the project.

White Rock Wind Farm 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.

The WRWF CCC is also used as an opportunity to provide an update on the progress of the White Rock Solar Farm.

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

- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 4 May 2017 from 1:30-3:30pm at the local shopfront (303C Grey Street, Glen Innes).

Any person may attend the meeting as an observer. For further details on the committee please contact us.

Expressions of Interest sought for Administration of the Community Benefits Fund

WRWF is currently seeking EOIs from local organisations and individuals that can demonstrate the necessary capability and experience to administer the Fund. The aim of the Fund is to financially support initiatives and projects that enrich and enhance the local community. Stage 1 of funding is expected to total \$175,000 per annum, commence once WRWF becomes operational and cease on decommissioning of the wind farm.

Please contact us for further details relating to the EOI. Closing date for EOIs is 5pm 26th May 2017.

Local Sponsorship

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:

- North Coast United Football Club
- Australian Celtic Festival
- Grafton to Inverell Cycle Classic
- Inverell Football Club
- Rotary Club for Glen Innes – Bike Ride for Mental Health Research

Transportation of wind turbine components



Wind turbine blade navigating the turn from New England Highway to Heron Street in Glen Innes.

Transportation of wind turbine components into the local area commenced late last year and will continue until mid- 2017. Two to three turbines will be delivered to the project site each week.

It will take 700 oversize loads to deliver the turbine components from Newcastle, via the New England Highway to White Rock Wind Farm. Over 300 oversize loads have been delivered to site.

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.

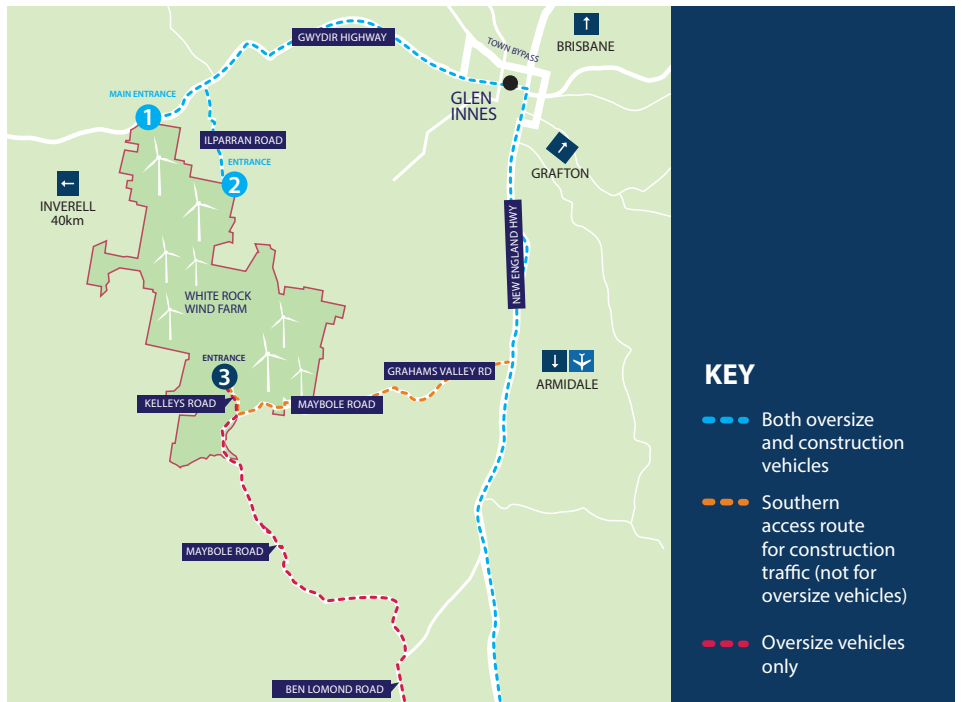
If you do encounter any oversize loads, please take care and observe all warning and speed restriction signs, including directions from escort vehicles and police. If you have any questions or concerns related to the transportation of turbine components please contact us.

Alternative access route via Ben Lomond

A further route option for over-dimensional vehicles is being considered for access to the southern parts of the project site. This route crosses three Local Government areas, Glen Innes Severn, Inverell Shire and Armidale. Investigation and consultation with the councils and RMS has been undertaken and the local councils have approved the use of the route.

The route is approximately 32 km from the New England Highway to Kelleys Road, Maybole. The route exits the New England Highway to the north of Llangothlin and continues approximately 13 km on Ben Lomond Road then on Maybole Road for a further 19 km before turning into Kelleys Road.

If you have any questions on the alternative access route, please contact us.



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 construction of Stage 1 (70 turbines) now well underway. Stage 2 could involve up to 49 approved turbines but a modified Stage 2 is also being considered which builds upon the design of Stage 1, subject to further approval. Initial assessments such as vegetation, cultural heritage and visual impact are underway. Preliminary discussions are being held with nearby neighbours to canvas opinion and more information will be provided as the design of Stage 2 progresses.

Local TV solution

Working together, WRWF and several Commercial Broadcasters, have found a solution to deliver best possible TV reception to TV viewers in Glen Innes. The installation of wind turbines located directly in the path of the parent signal to the Glen Innes TV transmitter site had the potential to cause interference to TV reception. This solution has now been activated, allowing construction of the turbines to proceed without the potential of degraded TV signals. The chosen solution will improve the reliability of the Glen Innes TV signal compared with other traditional TV signal delivery options.

"We assessed that an upgrade to the link feeding the Glen Innes township was required. The microwave solution will improve the reliability of TV for residents in Glen Innes who receive their TV signal from the Glen Innes Digital Broadcast site. We are grateful to the TV networks for their hard work to deliver this improvement." said Steven Nethery, Technical Service Manager for Goldwind.

Ongoing construction at White Rock Wind Farm

The following construction work is ongoing at the project site:

- installation and erection of wind turbines
- construction of the substation and associated 8 km of 132 kV transmission line, and
- excavation and blinding of wind turbine sites, concrete pours and all other necessary preparation prior to the installation of further turbines.

Construction partners such as TransGrid and Windhoist have commenced their work activities alongside the main contractor for the project, Fulton Hogan.

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.

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 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.



Turbine installations underway.



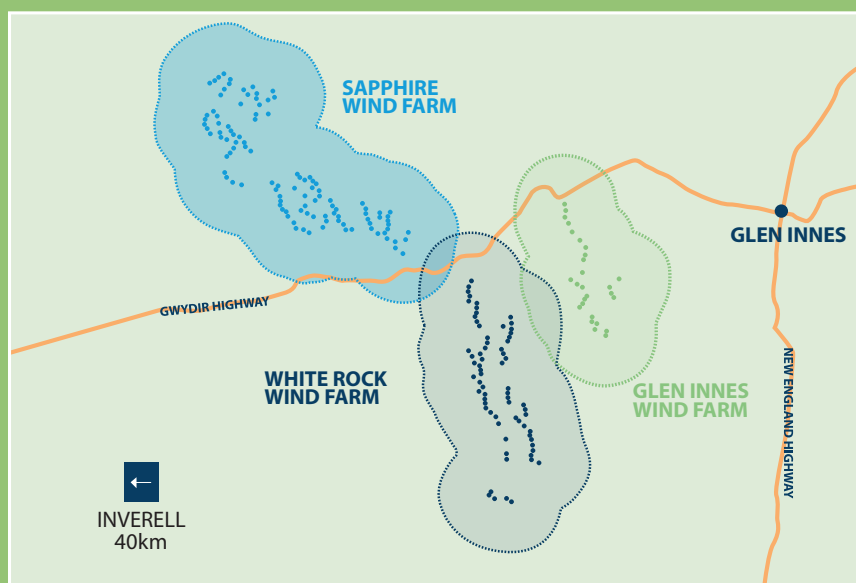
Member for New England, Adam Marshall announcing the installation of microwave radio link for Glen Innes, alongside Mayor of Glen Innes Severn, Steve Toms, and local representative Sandra Royal.

We want to hear your feedback!

We would like to hear back from you, the community, on how you think we have been performing in our community engagement efforts. You can take part by completing a survey available at the local shopfront or online on the project website. As appreciation for your input you can enter a draw to win a \$100 voucher for the Glen Innes Services Club (drawn 19th May 2017).

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

Further details on the project are available on the project website:
sapphirewindfarm.com.au



Glen Innes Wind Farm

Further details on the project are available on the project website:
gleninneswindfarm.com.au



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.

Shop front: 303C Grey Street,
Glen Innes NSW 2370
(Open hours: Monday –
Thursday 10am to 3:30pm).

Postal address: Suite 2, Level 23
201 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

info@whiterockwindfarm.com
Phone: 1800 859 660
www.whiterockwindfarm.com

Alternative powerline connection update

WRWF submitted an application to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to modify the WRWF project approval for alternative grid connection facilities in January 2017. The project modification was on public exhibition from 24 January 2017 to 21 February 2017. Ten submissions from government agencies were received during the exhibition period. No submissions were received from community members. WRWF is currently preparing responses to the submissions. DPE will review the submissions and responses as part of their assessment of the modification application. You can view the relevant documentation online at the DPE Major Project Register.

The alternative grid connection facilities would include:

- 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.

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