



Statement for media

14 February 2011

Federal Government approval for Origin's Stockyard Hill Wind Farm

Origin's Stockyard Hill Wind Farm today received approval from the Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

Origin has now received both State and Federal Government approvals after an extensive development process, which included research, consultation and planning over a period of more than three years.

Further detailed work must now be done to finalise the design and the construction plans in light of the approvals and conditions, and to prepare an investment proposal. Origin will keep the community informed throughout this process, including regular newsletters and updates to the website.

The proposed Stockyard Hill Wind Farm is located between the towns of Beaufort and Skipton, approximately 150 km north-west of Melbourne and 35 km west of Ballarat.

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About Origin Energy

Origin Energy is Australasia's leading integrated energy company focused on gas and oil exploration and production, power generation and energy retailing.

Listed in the ASX top 20 the company has approximately 4,000 employees, is a leading producer of gas in eastern Australia, is the largest owner and developer of gas-fired electricity generation in Australia and is a leading wholesaler and retailer of energy. The company services more than 3.5 million electricity, natural gas and LPG customers across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. Origin's strategic positioning and portfolio of assets provide flexibility, stability and significant opportunities for growth in the ever changing energy industry. Through Australia Pacific LNG, its 50:50 incorporated joint venture with ConocoPhillips, Origin is developing one of Australia's largest CSG to LNG projects based on Australia's largest CSG reserves base.

In New Zealand, Origin is the major shareholder in Contact Energy, the country's leading integrated energy company, operating geothermal, thermal and hydro generation facilities and servicing electricity, gas and LPG customers across both the North and South islands. Origin also operates several oil and gas projects in New Zealand and is one of the largest holders of petroleum exploration acreage in the country.

Origin has a strong focus on ensuring the sustainability of its operations, is the largest green energy retailer in Australia and has significant investments in renewable energy technologies.

For more information go to originenergy.com.au