



*View West of Skipton Road,
near Thompsons Road May 2014*

STOCKYARD HILL WIND FARM

Newsletter | Edition 15: May 2014

Welcome to the 15th edition of the Stockyard Hill newsletter. This newsletter provides information to the communities involved in the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm development. More copies are available by either contacting us, or downloading from our website.

Improving project efficiencies

Origin has started discussions about potentially increasing the dimensions of the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm's towers and blades that are currently approved to be constructed.

Origin would like to increase the maximum height the project's blades can reach (tip height) from the already permitted 132 metres to up to 165 metres. The increased tip height would come from a combination of increased tower height (from 80 up to 100 metres) and blade length (from 52 up to 65 metres) to enable the project to use the latest wind technology.

The changes would result in an increased 'swept area' for each tower. This would help drive down the cost of energy generated from the project and provide further environmental benefits, with more clean energy produced from the same number of wind towers.

Although a final turbine design has not yet been selected, the turbine capacity is expected to remain within the same range as the turbine dimension conditions in the existing approval (2 – 3.4 MW). The benefits come from advanced technology and greater swept area created by the larger blades.

A planning application to allow for the increase in tip height requires agreement from participating landowners, neighbours living within two kilometres of a proposed wind turbine and approval by the State Government.

Origin is commencing discussions with landowners, the Pyrenees Shire Council, and relevant regulatory authorities and expects the whole planning process to take at least 12 months. There will be no change to the proposed transmission line route or structures, or to the already permitted terminal station near Lismore.

Further assessments in relation to the potential effect of the proposed changes on matters such as aviation, flora and fauna, visual impact, shadow flicker and noise will also influence the final dimensions of wind turbine selected. Origin will be consulting with the public on these matters as the process progresses. (A sample photomontage is provided on the next page.)

If the permit amendment is not pursued, Origin intends to progress the project as permitted in October 2010.

To stay up to date please visit the project website at www.stockyardhillwindfarm.com.au or call **1800 753 730** for more information or to arrange a meeting.

Fast Facts

- Seeking to increase blade tip height from 132 metres to up to 165 metres
- The turbine capacity is expected to remain in the 2-3.4MW range
- Amendment process expected to take at least 12 months
- No changes to the proposed transmission line route or permitted terminal station



COMPARATIVE PHOTOMONTAGE WITH WIND TURBINES

View from Skipton Road, approximately 6km South of Beaufort looking due East

IMPORTANT NOTE: The photomontage shows wind turbines of a generic type with maximum dimensions (80 tower, 52m blade, 132m total tip height) and at locations as specified within the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm Planning Permit. These are shown against wind turbines with possible maximum dimensions (100 tower, 65m blade, 165m total tip height) that are currently being considered for a possible permit amendment. The final turbine dimensions, locations, and type of turbines will be subject to technical, planning and environmental assessment as well as relevant regulatory approvals processes. As such, the supplied photomontage should be viewed as indicative only and may be subject to change.

NVP03

Location data reference:
Grid Datum: MGA94 Zone 54

Easting: 710048
Northing: 5848861
Elevation: 378m

Distance to nearest turbine:
0.2km approx (T41 to NW)

Distance to nearest visible turbine:
0.5km approx (T53 to SE)



Stockyard Hill Wind Farm

For: Origin Energy



Viewpoint NVP03
Skipton Road

Project No: 0247530
Drawing No: NVP03-21
Revision No: 0

Date: 8 May 2014
Drawn by: ML
Reviewed by: AW

SP AusNet appointed

Origin has appointed SP AusNet to provide the next stage of detailed planning for the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm project. This arrangement allows SP AusNet and various sub-contractors to progress the preliminary design of the wind farm, including civil and high voltage construction planning, and to firm up cost assumptions whilst ensuring compliance with planning and environmental requirements.

This approach – called ‘Early Contractor Involvement’ – is commonly used in large scale projects like wind farm developments. The appointment of SP AusNet represents an important milestone for the Stockyard Hill project.

The detailed planning will precede Origin seeking firm offers for subsequent works.

Origin supports driver education

Origin was pleased to support the Driver’s Education Program which has been run by the Beaufort Community Bank branch of Bendigo Bank for the past five years. The Driver Training Academy aims to teach young drivers much more than how to pass the driving licence test. As well as assisting learner drivers reach the required 120 hours of supervised driving time, the participants learn in a group program where they rotate roles between driver, coach and assessor guiding and assisting their peers.

Beaufort Community Bank Chairman, Tim Chandler said “We were overwhelmed by the response of young people of the Beaufort community keen to participate in our Driver Education Program this year and are very thankful to our partners Origin Energy, Beaufort Apex Club and Youth Foundation Victoria for assisting.”

Other groups which have benefitted from the Stockyard Hill Wind Farm community investment program during the past 12 months include the Skipton Progress Association, Lismore Primary School, Beaufort Agricultural Society, Skipton Primary School as well as the Beaufort Primary School Parents and Friends Association.

The next round of recipients will be announced shortly.

Applications are reviewed biannually, in April and October. Any applications submitted throughout the year will be saved and reviewed at these times. More information about our community investment program and the application form can be found on our website on the community page.

www.stockyardhillwindfarm.com.au/community

Quarry update

As flagged in the last two editions of this newsletter, Origin is exploring the option of developing a local quarry within the project site to supplement the large amounts of crushed rock and bulk fill material needed for wind farm construction.

This would reduce pressure on local public roads during the construction of the wind farm.

We recently submitted a Draft Work Plan to the Department of State Development and Business Innovation (DSDBI). The Work Plan was accompanied by an Environmental Management Plan, detailing how all environmental impacts would be managed during establishment and operations of the proposed quarry. DSDBI has endorsed this Work Plan, which will form the basis of a planning permit application.

This planning permit application will be submitted to the Pyrenees Shire Council, along with a separate report to assess the proposed quarry against the provisions of the Shire of Pyrenees planning scheme. This will also include reports on traffic, social and visual impacts.

Following the submission of the planning application to the Pyrenees Shire Council the community will have the opportunity to submit their views to the decision makers.

Origin will ensure all relevant parties are notified when the planning permit application is lodged with the Pyrenees Shire Council.

Wind farm quarry investigation



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