DP ENERGY

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Euston Wind Farm

The proposed project is located near Euston NSW within the South-Western Renewable Energy Zone (SW-REZ). Euston is approximately 8km south of the Proposal site, in the Balranald LGA. The proposed site is approximately 38,567 hectares (ha) with the development corridor likely to occupy a cleared area of approximately 3,117 hectares (ha). A development corridor is the portion of the land that will be cleared to accommodate the wind turbines.

2. Who is DP Energy?

DP Energy is an international renewable energy company that specialises in developing sustainable and environmentally friendly renewable energy projects using various technologies including onshore wind, offshore wind, solar, battery storage, and tidal energy. DP Energy Australia Pty Ltd, the Australian subsidiary of the global DP Energy company, was founded in 1992 and is responsible for the Euston Wind Farm Proposal.

3. What is the project status?

DP Energy is exploring the opportunity of the proposed Euston Wind Farm and is currently undertaking the beginning phases of scoping for the proposed development. The discussions and input from the community over the coming months will help guide the Scoping Report. The Scoping Report is an early stage in the process of a development proposal and is used to determine the feasibility of the project, as well as the technical assessments that will be included in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

4. Why is the project needed?

NSW has a road map to increase NSW's renewable energy penetration to over 60% by 2030. This state-wide initiative will create 6300 construction and 2800 ongoing jobs in regional Australia and will reduce electricity prices in the state by $130 per year for households, $430 for small businesses, and reduce NSW's carbon emissions by approx. 90 million tons. Currently, the renewable energy penetration in NSW is 16%. As well as this, the Proposal will also significantly contribute towards the NSW Government's aim of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050, while creating new jobs in the area, and contributing to a reduction in electricity prices and carbon emissions.

5. How many wind turbines would the proposed site have?

Investigations are underway and early assessments indicate that this Proposal could host up to 100 turbines on the site.

6. How did the developers choose this site for the potential wind farm?

Careful consideration is needed to select the most appropriate site for a Wind Farm. Developers take many factors into consideration when selecting a site, including:

- The availability and frequency of wind
- access to the electricity grid
- current land use
- environmental impacts
- proximity to residents.

7. Who approvals the Proposal?

As a state significant project, the Proposal will be reviewed by the NSW Department of Planning, and Environment (DPE).

8. What is wind energy and how is it created?

Wind energy generates electricity from the power of the wind. Wind power is the cheapest source of large-scale renewable energy and is clean and extremely reliable. When a wind turbine captures the power of the wind, it generates electricity which is transferred to a substation and then connected to the national electricity grid. From here, it is distributed to power homes and businesses.

9. How much energy is in wind itself?

The energy content of wind is directly proportional to the swept area of the rotor, the air density and the cube of wind velocity. Therefore, if the wind speed doubles, the energy in the wind increased eight times. Modern wind turbines have been shown to convert approximately 40% of the kinetic energy in the wind into electrical energy. This is known as the "energy efficiency" of the wind turbine.

10. What are the visual impacts of wind turbines?

It is important to acknowledge that wind turbines do have a visual impact on the landscape. Part of the

Proposal process includes assessing the potential visual impact of the project and provides the planning authority with information to make an informed decision on the application. DP Energy will work with the local community and surrounding landholders throughout the process to ensure that the visual impact is minimised or mitigated where possible.

11. Will I be able to hear the wind farm?

Modern wind turbines make relatively little noise. The level of sound can vary depending on the shape of the land, the position of the listener and the speed of the wind. In most instances, it's possible to have a conversation at the bottom of a wind turbine without having to raise your voice. The noise of a wind turbine is most described as a cyclic whooshing or swishing sound.

12. What is the land currently used for?

The land is currently being used for grazing and cropping operations.

13. What is happening with the residual land?

Once the Wind Farm is operational, the landowners will continue to run their farming business as normal which will include livestock and crop farming.

14. Do wind turbines impact native flora and fauna?

DP Energy has engaged expert consultants who will undertake flora and fauna surveys to understand the ecological characteristics of the site. DP Energy is committed to minimising impacts on native flora and fauna by designing the project to allow species to continue to thrive during the construction and operation phases. During these phases, management plans will be developed to ensure this compliance is maintained.

15. Will Cultural Heritage be preserved and protected?

Preserving and protecting Cultural Heritage is a priority for the Proposal and DP Energy is committed to adhering to all legislation to achieve this. An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA), which includes field surveys, is required as part of the application process. This will include rigorous community engagement with Registered Aboriginal Parties and other community members throughout the community engagement process to ensure due diligence and maintain strong relationships and respect with First Nations peoples and cultures.

16. Will the Proposal devalue my nearby land?

There is no conclusive evidence to suggest that rural land is devalued due to the existence of a wind farm.

17. Do wind turbines cause fires?

As all high-voltage connections for turbines around the site will be run underground, the risk of electricity-related fire is extremely low. Each turbine is also fitted with a comprehensive lightning protection system that safely transfers any high voltages or currents directly to the earth without affecting turbine performance.

18. What is the lifespan of a wind farm?

A wind farm is expected to have an operational life of approximately 20 to 30 years.

19. What happens to a wind farm at the end of its life?

At the end of life, the wind turbines will be removed and decommissioned. The land will be rehabilitated and returned to its original use. The decommissioning process is a critical part of the development application process, and a decommissioning plan must be included for the development to be considered.

20. Will there be tourism benefits?

Wind farms have had a positive effect on tourism in past experiences. For example, Pacific Hydro's Codrington Wind Farm in southwest Victoria attracts 50,000 visitors each year through its successful tour operator business.

21. What are the benefits for the community and key stakeholders?

DP Energy is always looking for ways to invest in the community to help support local initiatives and improvements. We would love to hear your ideas on local priorities and how to share project benefits in the community. Please share your ideas on how we can invest in your community by emailing engage@nghengage.com.au

Questions and feedback

For more information on project updates, notices of upcoming community information sessions and to complete the Community Feedback Survey, visit https://ngh.engagementhub.com.au/euston-wind-farm or email engage@nghengage.com.au.