

### **Hills of Gold Wind Farm Newsletter**

Autumn • April 2021



### **Engaging with the Nundle and Hanging Rock communities**

From December 2, 2020 to January 29, 2021, the Hills of Gold Wind Farm development was on public exhibition at the War Memorial Hall in Nundle.

The information hub provided the community with an opportunity to engage further with the project, via a series of posters which summarised key points of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The hub also provided the community with the opportunity to register submissions relating to the project.

In the Nundle and Hanging Rock area, door-knocks were also conducted to share additional information face-to-face, and as an opportunity to answer any questions residents had.

Both the community information hub and the door-knocks were a great way to engage with the local community in person and ensure that everyone had easy access to information on the project.

Thank you for your submissions throughout this process - they're currently being collated for review.





### A message from the Project Manager

Welcome to the latest edition of the Hills of Gold Wind Farm Newsletter and the first since ENGIE purchased the project in 2020.

These updates are just one part of ENGIE's commitment to keep you informed of what's happening at the project, particularly as we go through the Development Assessment (DA) process. While our immediate focus is on reviewing the submissions received during the DA's public exhibition period, we'll continue to be open and available to you.

We're progressively meeting with local community members to share our vision for the Hills of Gold Wind Farm and to respond to issues as they are raised.

ENGIE is very much looking forward to the opportunity of developing the Hills of Gold Wind Farm and to making a positive contribution to the New England and Hunter regions, as we have done in many other parts of the world.

I hope to see you soon.

**Meredith Anderson** 

# Supporting local education with our Schools Program

We're committed to supporting local education and are excited to begin our Schools Program.

As part of the program, we've been in contact with local schools who will participate in workshops designed to educate students on renewable energy (with a focus on wind energy) and the Hills of Gold Wind Farm project.

The proposed sessions will include the opportunity to watch a short film which explains the basics of wind and other renewable energies, along with an overview of the Hills of Gold Wind Farm.

A map, challenges, quizzes, and other engaging resources will also be part of the program, encouraging students to learn more about their local wind farm.

## Hills of Gold Wind Farm Community Barbecue

We'll be hosting a series of community barbecues throughout the Nundle, Hanging Rock, Crawney and Timor areas soon.

The barbecues will an opportunity to hear from Hills of Gold Wind Farm project representatives for updates on timelines and key milestones, as well as an opportunity to be part of project consultation and to raise any questions and concerns.

Our first community barbecue will be at the Sports Recreation Ground on Timor Road on April 17, from 4pm to 6pm - we look forward to meeting you there!

## Friends of the Wind Farm meetings

The Friends of the Wind Farm group hosted a dinner at the Nundle Bowling Club on January 11. Operating under COVID safe restrictions, around 50 community members attended where they had the opportunity to ask questions, gain a better understanding of the project timeline and to write submissions.



#### **Update on the Project Timeline**

With the end of public exhibition, the Hills of Gold Wind Farm is now responding to submissions. Following this, we will be submitting a report to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) for assessment.

OCTOBER 15, 2018 Lodge Preliminary Environmental Assessment

> 2 NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 22, 2018 SEARS Issued NOVEMBER 20, 2020
Prepare Developmental
Application & Environmental
Impact Assessment

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JANUARY 29, 2021
Public Exhibition &
Collation of Submissions

ANTICIPATING WITHIN QTR 2 2021
Response to Public Submissions

ANTICIPATING WITHIN

Assessment

#### **Getting to know ENGIE**

#### 180+ YEARS OF INNOVATION

At ENGIE, we've been driving innovation for over 180 years. Since arriving in Australia in 1996, we've been setting the standard in lower carbon energy generation, renewables, energy efficiency and technology-based solutions.

To learn more about ENGIE, visit engie.com.au



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