

Collector Wind Farm Community Newsletter

Issue 1 – September 2010

Welcome to the first edition of the Collector Wind Farm newsletter. Transfield Services is currently assessing the potential for a wind farm to be developed on the hills between Collector and Gunning. The project is in the assessment phase and this newsletter is the first in a series that will keep you informed of progress.

We would also like to extend an invitation to those community members who would like to find out more about the project to attend a Community Open House. The details are:

**Collector Memorial Hall, Bourke Street, Collector
Thursday 14 October between 3pm and 8pm.**

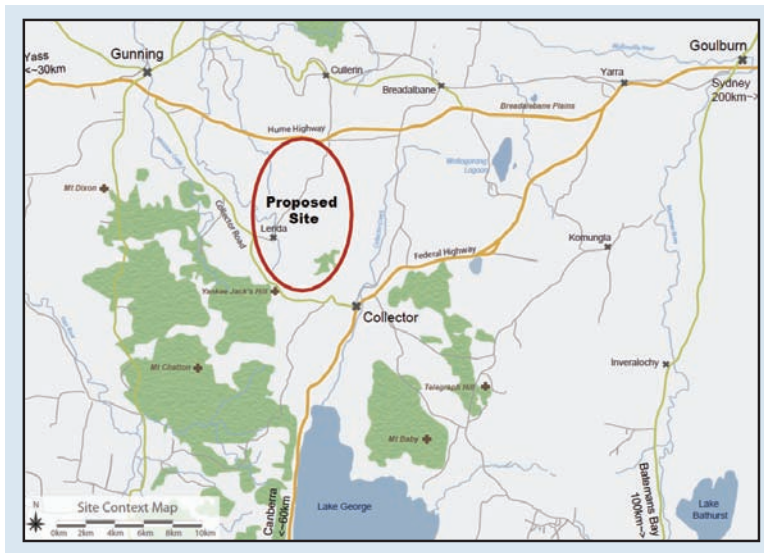
Community members are welcome to drop in at any time to discuss the project with Transfield Services' representatives.

The project

Transfield Services is assessing the potential for establishing a wind farm of between 60 and 80 wind turbines at Collector. Studies have indicated that wind speeds across the hills are ideal for harnessing this renewable energy source.

Wind farms produce clean energy, have minimal environmental impact and generate jobs and income in regional areas. In addition, this project would contribute to the Australian Government's target of 20 per cent renewable energy by 2020.

The proposed project represents a potential \$400 million investment in the region and has the potential to supply electricity equivalent to the needs of approximately 80,000 New South Wales homes.



Highlighted above is the proposed site of the wind farm.

What opportunities are there for community input into this proposal?

At Transfield Services we have a proud history of developing positive long-term relationships with the communities in which we work.

We see this is a two-way process. Gaining local knowledge and understanding community views will be important considerations for us in undertaking the various technical studies and assessing the potential of the site to host a wind farm. In turn, Transfield Services is committed to involving the community throughout the development process and we undertake to provide information in a timely and transparent manner.



We expect that the local community will have a range of views about this project and we anticipate that these views will allow us to develop the best project possible.

There are a number of ways that you can gain information on the project and contribute to the development process, including:

- a Community Open House to be held at the Collector Memorial Hall, Bourke Street, Collector, on Thursday 14 October between 3pm and 8pm;
- regular community newsletters, such as this one, throughout the development phase;
- one-on-one meetings with interested or concerned parties;
- correspondence via telephone, email or letter to Transfield Services' Project Manager, Nick Valentine (details below); and
- Transfield Services wind farm website – www.windfarms.net.au

Transfield Services has also made a commitment to Upper Lachlan Shire Council to keep them informed throughout the project.

What are we investigating?

Over the next six months, Transfield Services will investigate the potential impact of the wind farm on your environment and community. The following studies will be prepared by expert consultants:

- flora and fauna assessment, including the potential for impacts on birds and bats;
- noise assessment to understand the potential impacts on neighbouring residences during construction and operation;
- visual impact assessment, including preparation of photomontages and shadow flicker analysis;
- cultural heritage assessment, including consultation with the local Aboriginal community;
- traffic impact assessment;
- aeronautical impact assessment; and
- telecommunications interference studies.

The scope of this work will be guided by the Department of Planning's environmental assessment requirements and other best practice guidelines.

These investigations, together with the information and views gathered from the community and government, will be considered in the design of the wind farm and the associated access tracks, substation and electricity grid connection.

What is the planning process?

The proposed Collector Wind Farm will be assessed by the NSW Department of Planning as a Major Project under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). All Major Projects require the approval of the Minister for Planning. Major Project applications must be accompanied by an environmental assessment (EA). The scope of the EA will be determined by the requirements issued by the Director-General of the NSW Department of Planning.

Transfield Services submitted a Major Project Application to the Department of Planning in early September, together with a Preliminary Environmental Assessment. These documents, as well as further information on the planning process, are available to the public on the Department's website at <http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au>.

Who is Transfield Services?

Transfield Services - an Australian-owned company - is a leading provider of operations, maintenance, asset and project management services. The company - with a workforce in excess of 28,000 employees - works across diverse industries including mining, hydrocarbons, transport, water, energy, telecommunications and defence.

Transfield Services owns and operates a portfolio of power stations across Australia with a total generating capacity of 1,000 megawatts (MW). The company also owns and operates three wind farms and has an interest in a number of wind farm development sites.

Transfield Services has extensive experience in project development and delivery across Australia, and has fostered close relationships with landowners and host communities. The company has an enviable track record of working with communities to develop solutions to community issues.

For more information

We invite you to attend our community open house on Thursday 14 October at Collector, or to contact Transfield Services' Project Manager, Nick Valentine, on **(02) 9963 9924** or valentinen@transfieldservices.com with any questions.

Information about wind energy is available at www.windfarms.net.au

www.transfieldservices.com



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