

Bendenine Wind Farm

Project Update

September 2026

The Bendenine Wind Farm Project is a proposed renewable energy development in the Yass Valley that would generate electricity from wind to help meet growing energy needs while contributing to Australia's transition to a lower-emissions energy system.

In this edition, we share updates on project planning activities, preliminary environmental survey findings, community feedback received to date, and the next steps in the planning process, including an update on the preparation of the Scoping Report and request for SEARs.

We welcome your feedback on the Project at any time. If you would like to arrange a meeting, or if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out on 1800 497 133 or email info@bendeninewindfarm.com.au.

Community Sponsorship Program

Applications are open for the 2026 Bendenine Wind Farm Community Sponsorship Fund, with up to \$20,000 available each year to support the community during the project development phase.

The fund is designed to support local organisations in delivering and enhancing community programs, initiatives, services and facilities, with any unspent funding rolling over into future years.



Scan the QR code to apply

Project at a glance



Located approximately 15 km north-west of Yass, between the townships of Binalong and Bowning



Investigating the feasibility of up to 88 wind turbines



Key project components

On-site electrical substations, transmission infrastructure, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), site offices and other supporting infrastructure



Benefit sharing

Ongoing benefits would be shared with the community and neighbouring residents through a range of programs, shaped by local input and priorities



Current stage of development

Preparing SEARs request, including Scoping Report and supporting assessments; detailed studies underway to inform the EIS

Wind Prospect respectfully acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the Bendenine Wind Farm is proposed. We honour their ongoing connection to the land and waters, and we are committed to fostering respectful, collaborative relationships with Indigenous communities across all our projects.

bendeninewindfarm.com.au



Scoping report lodgement

Since consultation began in April 2025, the project team has been engaging with community members and stakeholders while progressing preparation of the Scoping Report, the first step in the NSW planning process for State Significant Developments.

The Scoping Report presents the proposed project to the DPHI, helping them to identify the key matters that will require further assessment and evaluation. It covers a wide range of preliminary information about the proposed site, such as roads and traffic, visual impact, environmental information, noise, and cultural heritage.

Wind Prospect had intended to submit the Scoping Report in June 2026. However, additional project design work is currently underway in response to feedback received from landholders, government agencies and other stakeholders. This includes refining project components such as access arrangements, electrical infrastructure, construction facilities, quarry requirements and other supporting infrastructure.

Once submitted, it will be published on the NSW Planning Portal. Following assessment, DPHI will issue the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs), which outline the studies required to inform the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

We recognise that the information contained in the Scoping Report will be of interest to the community and will continue to provide project updates as planning progresses. Further information, including a revised lodgement timeframe, will be published on the project website once confirmed.

Environmental surveys

The Project team has been progressing a comprehensive environmental survey program across the site to inform the suitability of the project and its design. This work is being carried out by specialist ecologists from Umwelt in consultation with relevant government agencies.

Threatened Species Identification

Our initial ecological surveys have identified several threatened species within, or in proximity to, the project area, including:

- ▲ **Superb Parrot (*Polytelis swainsonii*)**
Listed as vulnerable under both NSW and Commonwealth legislation
- ▲ **Yass Daisy (*Leucochrysum albicans* subsp. *tricolor*)**
A nationally threatened plant species
- ▲ **Golden Sun Moth (*Synemon plana*)**
A vulnerable species associated with native grasslands
- ▲ **Eastern Bent-winged Bat (*Miniopterus orianae oceanensis*)**
A threatened species known to fly through the area, with monitoring underway to gather further data

We are working closely with relevant regulatory agencies to inform the scope of future investigations, including targeted field surveys and bird and bat monitoring. These studies will support efforts to avoid and minimise potential impacts, as well as to assess any residual effects the project may have.

We will continue to refine the project design to avoid and minimise impacts wherever possible. These findings will be thoroughly documented in our Environmental Impact Statement which will be assessed by the DPHI.

Box Gum Woodland

The site contains areas of White Box–Yellow Box–Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland, a Critically Endangered Ecological Community (CEEC) listed under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). We recognise the important value and ecological significance of this vegetation community and will seek to avoid and minimise interaction with these areas.



What we've heard

Listening to and understanding local perspectives is central to our approach. Through targeted engagement and social impact scoping, we have gathered a range of community views, priorities and concerns, helping to inform how the project continues to evolve.

Additionally, to support our understanding of social impacts, we commissioned Umwelt to prepare a Social Impact Scoping Report (SISR). This involved gathering feedback through confidential surveys, interviews, and engagement activities with community members in the Binalong, Bowning, Goondah, and Kangiara areas.

Key Themes from Community Engagement

The following themes consistently emerged across our engagement activities and the SISR process:



Visual and landscape character

Concerns about the visual impact of turbines on the rural landscape and local character.



Noise and amenity

Questions about turbine noise and impacts on nearby properties and rural amenity.



Environmental values

Interest in potential impacts on flora, fauna, threatened species and native vegetation.



Property values

Concerns about potential impacts on residential and rural property values.



Bushfire risk

Questions about whether turbines and associated infrastructure could increase bushfire risk.



Community input and decision-making

A desire for genuine community input and clarity around how feedback informs decisions.

What we're doing

Community views are important to us and the feedback received has been carefully considered in how we are approaching the project and our ongoing design development.

All of the outlined project considerations will be thoroughly assessed as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which will include a detailed Social Impact Assessment (SIA). Our aim is to avoid, minimise or manage these impacts.



Visual and landscape character

Visual assessment studies are underway. Preliminary results will be included in the Project's Scoping Report, and photomontages will soon be developed to support visual amenity discussions with the local community.



Noise and amenity

We are undertaking acoustic studies to assess potential noise impacts on nearby properties and rural amenity.



Environmental values

The project area has been selected to minimise impacts on biodiversity, including threatened species and native vegetation. Detailed field surveys are ongoing.



Bushfire risk

Bushfire risk will be assessed in consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service, councils and emergency services. Modern wind farms also include safety features such as lightning protection, remote monitoring and fire suppression systems that contribute to improved fire safety.



Community input and decision-making

We invite you to share your feedback and questions as the project progresses. Input received at key stages, including during preparation of the EIS, is reviewed alongside technical studies and helps inform project design, mitigation measures and decision-making. We remain available to speak with community members, and the Community Engagement Plan, including how feedback is considered, is available on our website.

Supporting community wellbeing



In recognition of the challenges rural communities face in accessing mental health support, we have partnered with Rural Health Connect to provide free and confidential online-based psychology services.

Appointments are available to residents of Binalong, Bowning, Goondah and Kangiara and can be made online or by calling 0493 432 144.

For more information, visit bendeninewindfarm.com.au and look for the Social Wellbeing Program Flyer.

Engagement opportunities



Meet us in person

We will be hosting two drop-in information sessions to answer questions and provide updates on the project. Additional community drop-in sessions are planned for November and December, with details to be shared as they are confirmed.

Thursday 8 October 2pm - 6pm

Friday 9 October 2pm - 6pm

Binalong Mechanics Institute Hall
15 Wellington St, Binalong
New South Wales 2584

As part of the proposed Bendenine Wind Farm, we are working with the community on a range of approaches to share project benefits and respond to local impacts. We have developed further information on Community Benefit Sharing and Neighbour Agreements. Further information is available below.

Community Benefit Sharing Plan

In collaboration with the community, a Community Benefit Sharing Plan is being developed. If the project proceeds, the plan would establish a framework for a range of community benefit programs, delivering long-term funding to support local priorities across Binalong, Bowning and surrounding areas. Funding approaches and outcomes would be shaped through ongoing community consultation, with flexibility to respond to evolving local needs over time.



Learn more about
Community Benefit
Sharing

Visual Impact Neighbour Agreements

The project is also proposing Neighbour Agreements for nearby landowners who may experience elevated visual impacts from the Bendenine Wind Farm. These agreements provide financial payments and complement standard mitigation measures, such as vegetation screening and project design refinements.

Participation is optional, and agreements are non-confidential. Eligibility will be determined through the project's Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, with eligible landowners contacted directly by Wind Prospect.



Learn more about
Visual Impact Neighbour
Agreements

Get in touch

The project team is available at any time to answer your questions and share information about the proposed project.

 **1800 497 133**

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