

Chalumbin Wind Farm



A photomontage showing what the wind farm would look like from the Kennedy Highway

Summary of the Chalumbin Wind Farm proposal

Following is a summary of key points for the Chalumbin Wind Farm proposal:

- 86 wind turbines and associated infrastructure within two privately owned cattle grazing properties about 15 km south-west of Ravenshoe - location and layout map overleaf.
- Initial construction footprint of 1,071 hectares (ha), including already disturbed areas from the existing powerlines and access tracks on the host properties.
- Construction would impact mostly remnant vegetation classified as 'least concern' and completely avoid rainforest, cultural heritage sites and the most valuable areas of habitat
- No construction involving soil disturbance during the wet season months.
- The nearest disturbance to the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area boundary, east of the project area, is 600 m in one location and otherwise 900 m or much more.
- Protected fauna species confirmed to use parts of the host properties are the magnificent brood frog, masked owl and northern greater glider.
- Proposed land-based environmental offsets will protect and improve 6,855 ha of habitat for protected species on private land, with active management regimes for pest control, weeds and fire. They include:
 - 3,050 ha including the largest intact patches of wet sclerophyll forest on private property adjacent to Tully Falls National Park (NP) and Koombooloomba NP.
 - Land connecting Koombooloomba NP and Yourka Reserve Nature Refuge.
 - Habitat areas that are 6-11 times the size of habitat areas impacted, including 2,180 ha for the magnificent brood frog, 6,820 ha for the masked owl, 5,760 ha for the northern greater glider, 4,840 ha for the koala and 6,100 ha for the spectacled flying-fox (koala and spectacled flying-fox have not been found in the project area to date).
- The offset package also includes \$250,000 for research into the magnificent brood frog.
- New and more opportunities for the Traditional Owners to access the host properties under a Cultural Heritage Management Agreement.
- Suite of benefits including training and employment for the Traditional Owners through an Indigenous Land Use Agreement.
- Rehabilitation of at least 70% of the construction disturbance not required for operation, approximately 675 ha, a significant opportunity for habitat restoration capacity building, training and employment.
- \$500,000 per year Community Benefit Program for the 25-year life of the wind farm, offering new funding opportunities for local social benefit programs, and threatened species recovery teams and working groups.
- Approximately 400 jobs during construction and 15-30 full-time jobs for operation.
- Estimated \$300 million in local and regional expenditure during the construction period.
- Operational footprint of 107 ha and generation capacity of 602 MW of clean energy to help decarbonise the electricity system and put downward pressure on electricity prices.
- Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of approximately 596,309 t CO₂-e/year, achieving net positive within 1.5 years of operation and then providing a net benefit for the rest of the wind farm's operating life.

Public Environment Report

Thank you to everyone who attended the public information sessions for the Draft Public Environment Report in Ravenshoe last November, and to those who took the time to review the report and make a submission.

The Final Public Environment Report, taking into consideration comments made in submissions and including a Response to Submissions Report (Appendix U), has been lodged with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water and is on display at the following locations until Friday, 28 April 2023:

- **Tablelands Regional Council** (front reception), 45 Mabel St, Atherton.
- **State Library of Queensland** (John Oxley Library – Level 4), Stanley Place, South Brisbane.
- **Chalumbin Wind Farm Information Hub**, 55 Grigg St, Ravenshoe.

The Final Public Environment Report and associated documents are also available online from the project website, under the 'News' tab or by scanning the QR code right.



For more detail on the project an information sheet, ecology fact sheet, site map, previous newsletters and Community Advisory Group meeting presentations are available at chalumbinwindfarm.com.au

Planning & Assessment

Chalumbin Wind Farm site map – 86 wind turbines

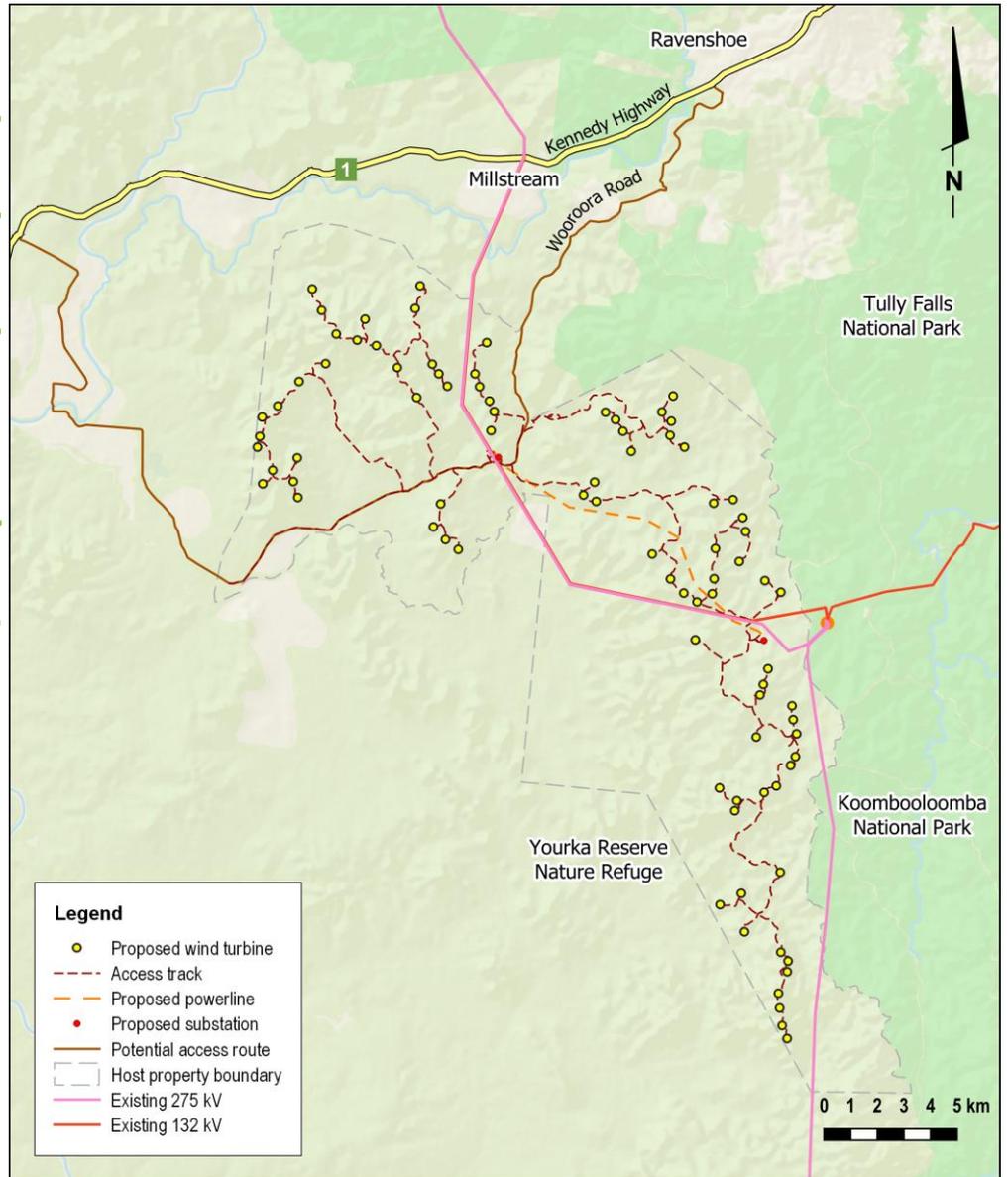
Queensland Government

- 1 Site selection, initial concept and preliminary investigations ✓
- 2 Pre-lodgment meeting with State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA) ✓
- 3 Studies and assessments (prescribed by SARA State code 23) ✓
- 4 Application and assessments lodged with SARA ✓
- 5 Requests from SARA for further information and responses ✓
- 6 Assessment ✓
- 7 Determination: approved **WE ARE HERE**



Australian Government

- 1 Referral to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for review under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. ✓
- 2 Decision: Controlled Action, assessment by Public Environment Report (PER) ✓
- 3 Guidelines issued by DCCEEW for draft PER ✓
- 4 Preparation of draft PER ✓
- 5 Draft PER lodged for review ✓
- 6 Draft PER placed on public exhibition ✓
- 7 Preparation of final PER taking into consideration comments in submissions ✓
- 8 Final PER submitted to DCCEEW **WE ARE HERE**
- 9 Determination



The project area is within two privately owned cattle grazing properties that contain existing disturbed areas and high voltage transmission lines. It is south-west of Ravenshoe and to the west of Tully Falls National Park and Koombooloomba National Park. The project is named after the Chalumbin Substation within the site and does not involve any rainforest or the local wilderness area known as Chalumbin. The wind farm would connect to the existing 275 kV powerline within the site and have a generation capacity of 602 megawatts of clean energy.

Chalumbin Wind Farm's ecological commitments offer conservation benefits for key species and aim to ensure a net gain for biodiversity in the project area over the longer term.

Questions?

Questions and feedback are welcome at any time and can be sent directly to the project team via info@chalumbinwindfarm.com.au or the form available under the 'Feedback' tab on the website. Interested community members are also invited to visit the Chalumbin Wind Farm Information Hub at 55 Grigg St, Ravenshoe, currently open on Thursdays and by appointment.

More information

Chalumbin Wind Farm Information Hub, 55 Grigg St, Ravenshoe. Open Thursday mornings and by appointment.
 Telephone: 1800 731 296. Email: info@chalumbinwindfarm.com.au.
 Newsletter sign-up: arkenergy.com.au/mailling-list-details
 Website: chalumbinwindfarm.com.au or scan QR code right

