

Doughboy Wind Farm



Photograph taken on Dyamberin Rd, looking south towards the former Doughboy Wind Farm project area, approximately 4 km away.

Development application withdrawn

Following a change of mind from some of the project's involved landowners, Ark Energy has decided not to proceed with the Doughboy Wind Farm proposal in its current form and has withdrawn the project's development application from the NSW Government's planning and assessment process.

The proposal has also been automatically withdrawn from the federal environmental assessment process managed by the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).

Ark Energy maintains that the site, located within the NSW Government's New England Renewable Energy Zone, is an excellent location for wind energy generation, and may reconsider the project with a different design at a later date, and pending further consultation.

As a result of development application's withdrawal, the associated Scoping Report and issued Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), no longer apply. In the event that Ark Energy chooses to recommence development of the project in the future, a new Scoping Report will be prepared, and the assessment and approval process for the revised project would commence from the beginning.

Thank you

Ark Energy would like to thank all those who engaged with the Doughboy Wind Farm project team over the course of the project's development.

In particular, we would like to thank all the valued stakeholders who gave consideration to the proposal and contributed feedback and input, including many members of the community for the Armidale area and wider New England region and Armidale Regional Council. We also thank the many private landowners who were involved.

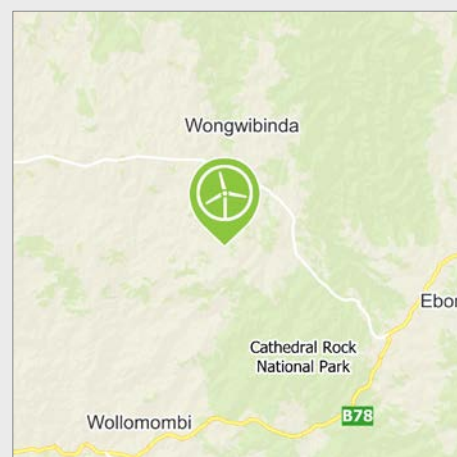
Questions

Questions and comments about this project are welcome and can be sent directly to Ark Energy's NSW development team via the contact details overleaf.

Please note however that this will be the final newsletter for the Doughboy Wind Farm at this time.

Community members who are registered to receive e-news updates have the option to update their preferences via the link in the e-newsletters, to receive e-news on Ark Energy's other projects in NSW and around Australia.

Location



The project area for the previously proposed Doughboy Wind Farm was approximately 50 km east of Armidale, in the New England region of New South Wales.

This location is within the NSW Government's New England Renewable Energy Zone, an area identified as optimal for new renewable energy projects due to the natural resources and proximity to existing or planned network infrastructure.

The proposal involved up to 55 wind turbines and associated infrastructure, with a generation capacity of 350 megawatts (MW).

Utility-scale wind farms in NSW are considered State Significant Development and assessed by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI).

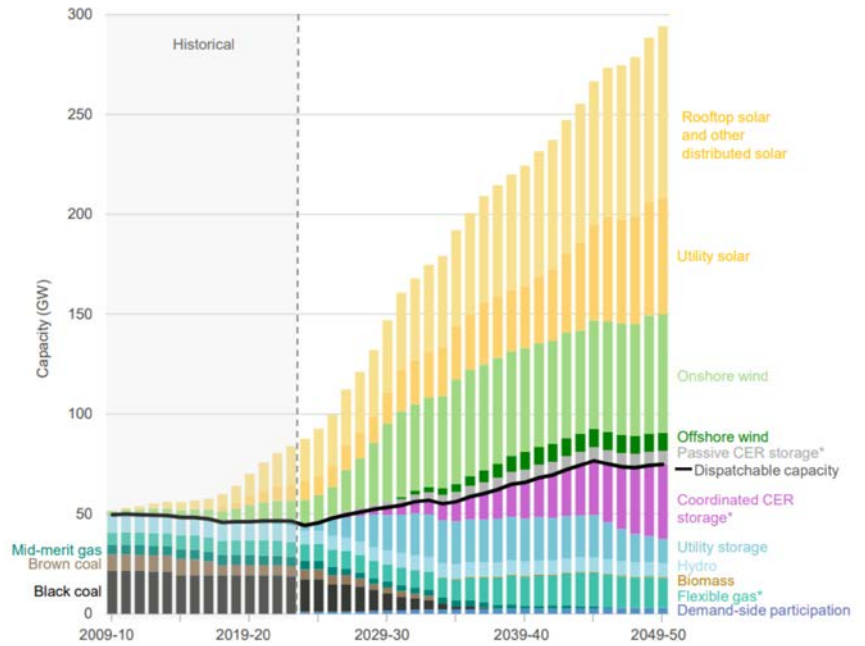
- 1 Site selection and preliminary investigations ✓
- 2 Initial concept and consultation ✓
- 3 Referral to the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for review under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) ✓
- 4 Determination on EPBC Act referral by DCCEEW - controlled action with assessment under bilateral agreement (Ref 2021/8905) ✓
- 5 Preparation of updated Scoping Report for the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) ✓
- 6 Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued by DPE ✓
- 7 Studies, assessments, design
July 2024 - Proposal withdrawn
- 8 Design-completed, finalising EIS for lodgment
- 9 Development application (DA) and EIS lodged with DPHI (formerly DPE)
- 10 DA and EIS on public exhibition
- 11 Responses to submissions and requests for further information (if required)
- 12 Assessment by DPHI
- 13 DPHI assessment report and recommendation
- 14 Determination by DCCEEW

Updated electricity system plan

In June 2024 the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) published the 2024 Integrated System Plan (ISP). AEMO is Australia's independent system and market operator and system planner. The ISP is a roadmap for the transition of the National Electricity Market (NEM) to meet future energy needs and enable a net zero economy by 2050. The 2024 ISP estimates that coal will exit the NEM by 2038 and electricity consumption will double by 2050. It forecasts that under a 'Step change scenario' the NEM will require a six-fold increase in grid-scale wind and solar by 2050, at an average of more than 4 gigawatts of new generation a year.

More information is available at: aemo.com.au

Figure 2 Capacity, NEM (GW, 2009-10 to 2049-50, Step Change)



Notes: "Flexible gas" includes gas-powered generation and potential hydrogen capacity. "CER storage" means consumer energy resources such as batteries and electric vehicles. Projections for "Rooftop solar and other distributed solar" and "CER storage" are forecast based on unit costs, consumer trends and assumptions about payments received to participate in the electricity market.

New England REZ transmission declared significant for NSW

The NSW Government has declared the New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) transmission project as Critical State Significant Infrastructure, integral for the state's transition away from fossil fuels and pivotal for energy security. The project is led by EnergyCo, part of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). EnergyCo is leading the development of REZ transmission network infrastructure as the Infrastructure Planner for REZs in NSW.

EnergyCo has been consulting to determine the study corridor and a Scoping Report outlining the project's details and potential impacts will soon be lodged with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI). The project will then be evaluated through the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process.

More information

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Email - info@doughboywindfarm.com.au

Newsletters - register at arkenergy.com.au/mailling-list-details for email news, or to receive newsletters by post, send us your postal address and a request to be added to the mail (post) list.

Website - doughboywindfarm.com.au or scan the QR code right



Scan QR code to visit the project website