

Bowmans Creek Wind Farm



A photomontage showing what the wind farm would look like from Bowmans Creek Road, looking west from about 1 km away from the nearest wind turbine.

Community consultation sessions

Community consultation sessions for the proposal to add a battery energy storage system (BESS) to Bowmans Creek Wind Farm Stage 1, and the proposal for Stage 2 with an additional 21 wind turbines, were held in Hebden and Mount Olive in August 2025. The project team thanks everyone who took the time to attend. We appreciate the insights that were shared and the feedback received. The presentation and information materials shared are now available on the project website, in the session report under the 'News' tab.

Key topics of interest raised by community members for Stage 2 included:

- Visual amenity
- Potential noise disturbance from wind turbines
- Construction impacts including traffic and transport
- End of operations including decommissioning and recyclability of components
- Community participation and benefits including employment and procurement.

Invitation to contribute to the Social Impact Assessment

Environmental and social consultancy Umwelt is preparing a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for Bowmans Creek Wind Farm Stage 2, and the proposal to add a battery energy storage system to Stage 1.

The SIA seeks to identify, predict and evaluate potential social impacts associated with the projects, and inform recommendations for appropriate mitigation and enhancement strategies.

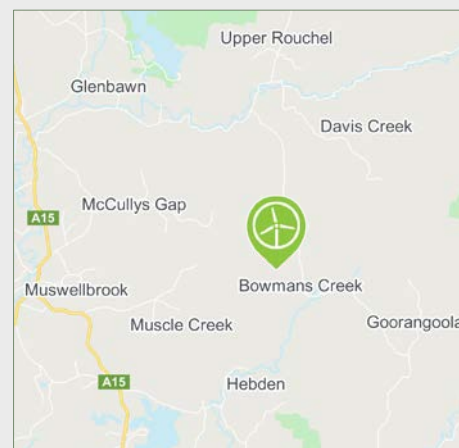
Community members and other local stakeholders are invited to contribute to the assessment by completing the SIA Survey. The online survey is available by scanning the QR code right on your mobile device or visiting the web page: www.research.net/r/BOW2

Alternatively, if you prefer to complete a printed copy of the survey please contact Umwelt's SIA team on Social-team@umwelt.com.au or **02 4907 0176** to request a printed copy of the survey and a reply-paid envelope to be mailed to your postal address.

Survey responses are due by 31 January 2026.



Location



The Bowmans Creek Wind Farm project area is about 12 km east of Muswellbrook and located within the Hunter-Central Coast Renewable Energy Zone. Stage 1 is approved, and expected to deliver:

- 54 wind turbines with a generation capacity of 335 megawatts.
- More than 200 direct and indirect jobs in the regional area during construction, and 30 direct and indirect jobs during operation.
- \$179 million in the regional economy through direct and indirect expenditure, value-add and household income.
- Neighbour benefit program and significant community benefit funds from start of generation and for the life of the wind farm.

Planning & assessment Stage 2

Utility-scale wind farms in NSW are considered State Significant Development and assessed by the NSW Government.

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 Scoping Report submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)

5 Determination on EPBC Act referral by DCCEEW

6 Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued by DPHI

7 Studies, assessments

WE ARE
HERE

8 Finalising EIS for lodgment

9 Development application (DA) and EIS lodged with DPHI

10 DA and EIS on public exhibition and open for submissions

11 Response to submissions and requests for further information (if required)

12 Assessment by DPHI

13 DPHI assessment report and recommendation

14 Final determination by DCCEEW

Ark Energy's 2025 Best Practice Charter report

Ark Energy is a signatory to the Clean Energy Council's *Best Practice Charter for Renewable Energy Projects*, a voluntary set of commitments to engage respectfully with communities, be sensitive to environmental and cultural values and make a positive contribution to the regions in which we operate.

In November 2025 the CEC published this year's Charter signatory reports, showcasing the work being done around Australia by more than 40 renewable energy developers and operators to deliver on the Charter commitments.

With around 400 real-world examples of initiatives and projects, the Charter reports provide the most comprehensive overview of how renewable energy projects are supporting regional communities around Australia.

They show an industry that is working hard to raise the bar for community engagement and contributing meaningful, lasting benefits to communities.

Ark Energy is proud to highlight the work of the Bowmans Creek Wind Farm project team in its 2025 Best Practice Charter report.

Discover how we're
building lasting benefits
in regional Australia

View our Best Practice
Charter Report for 2025



Best
Practice
Charter
Signatory



Next steps

Technical assessments required for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Stage 2 are being prepared, including for traffic and transport, landscape and visual impact, noise, Aboriginal cultural heritage, social impacts and economic impacts. More information on these assessments is available in the 'Stage 2 Assessments Update' report under the 'News' tab on the project website.

The project team is working towards submitting the EIS for Stage 2 by mid-2026.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has engaged with the project team this year. We appreciate the importance of involving community members and feedback is welcome at any time. Comments can be sent directly to the project team via the contact details below or the feedback form on the website.

Local suppliers and businesses interested in providing services to the project are also encouraged to submit the expression of interest form under the 'Supplier' tab on the project website. This information will be added to the interested supplier list.

We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable festive season and look forward to updating you again in 2026.

More information

Tel - 1800 731 296

Email - info@bowmanscreekwindfarm.com.au

Register for newsletters - arkenergy.com.au/mailling-list-details

Website - bowmanscreekwindfarm.com.au or scan QR code right

