

Construction

Yanco Delta Wind Farm is a proposed **1.5 GW wind farm** located approximately 10 km north-west of Jerilderie within the NSW South West Renewable Energy Zone. The Project was approved on 23 December 2023 and includes the construction of **up to 208 wind turbines, an 800 MW / 800 MWh BESS** and associated infrastructure, capable of generating enough renewable energy to power approximately **750,000*** homes each year.

Project modification

As Project planning has progressed, several factors have made design adjustments necessary to ensure safe, efficient and successful delivery of the Project. These include:

- New constraints from nearby transmission projects
- Updates to construction methodologies
- Turbine supplier requirements
- Landholder, community and key stakeholder feedback
- The need to avoid sensitive biodiversity and Aboriginal cultural heritage areas.

Construction workforce

- The approved project anticipated a peak workforce of **300 workers**
- Updated construction planning identifies a peak workforce of **up to 895 workers**, reflecting revised construction methodologies, contractor requirements and the scale of work required
- A Temporary Workers Accommodation (TWA) will house **up to 90%** of the workforce on-site, significantly reducing demand for short-term accommodation in nearby towns and potential social impacts
- Approximately **54 workers** are expected to seek local accommodation during peak construction
- **Temporary increases in local short-term accommodation demand may still occur** during early works, before the TWA becomes operational, and during TWA decommissioning
- Potential temporary impacts of construction and increased workforce include:
 - short-term population influx, and predominately non-local workforce
 - temporary noise that may disturb livestock
 - increased light vehicle traffic, predominantly along Wilson Road
 - increased demand for essential services, including healthcare
- The larger construction workforce is expected to deliver **positive regional benefits**, including increased local employment, skills development and opportunities for women and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



The modification refines the approved project to respond to design needs, environmental constraints and community input.

Noise

- Additional or modified construction elements - including the TWA, oversize/overmass (OSOM) route refinements, revised staging and layout changes - may result in varied construction noise impacts
- Noise predictions indicate impacts are **generally reduced or comparable** to the approved project, with most receivers remaining **below applicable Noise Management Levels**. A receiving location is typically an occupied dwelling
- Some limited noise exceedances may occur and will be managed through feasible and reasonable work practices, approval conditions and standard construction mitigation
- Construction traffic noise **remains within NSW Road Noise Policy** criteria, meaning no additional mitigation is required.

Visual impacts

- The modified project results in a **minor, temporary increase** in landscape character impacts during construction, but changes are not substantial in the context of the approved Project's scale
- **Two public viewpoints** required reassessment due to turbine relocation; both received **low or very low** visual impact ratings
- Temporary lighting associated with the TWA will not cause impacts to private dwellings due to distance and lack of direct light spill
- No material increases in views of ancillary infrastructure, including transmission lines, are expected.

Water use

- Construction water demand is estimated at **833 ML over four years** (430 ML non-potable; 403 ML potable), an increase from the previously approved **417.9 ML**
- **Potable water** will be brought in from **town water supply** and be primarily used for TWA operations
- **Non-potable water** will be sourced on-site from existing irrigation bores (via zero-share Water Access Licence (WALs) as required) and will be used for dust suppression, soil/roadbase conditioning/compaction.

Contamination and soils

- Contamination risk has been assessed as **negligible to low**
- Localised **acid sulfate soils (ASS)** will be screened prior to construction
- Any contamination, spills or unexpected finds will be managed through the Construction Environmental Management Plan, stockpile controls and unexpected finds procedures
- Erosion and sediment controls will prevent movement of material to waterways.

Telecommunications

- Ongoing consultation will occur with relevant telecommunications stakeholders during the detailed design phase
- The Project is working with EnergyCo to explore a **coordinated telecommunications strategy** for the South West REZ, which may include **Starlink services** and a potential **telecommunications tower** within the Project area.

Decommissioning

- Decommissioning will generally involve similar methods and equipment to construction and occur at the end of the Project's approximately **30-year lifespan**
- Impacts will be **smaller in scale and shorter in duration** than construction and will be managed through environmental and decommissioning procedures.

Cumulative impacts

- Several surrounding projects have progressed or been announced since 2023
- The modified project will contribute to cumulative impacts when considered alongside nearby developments
- Overall, modifications are **not expected to significantly alter** cumulative impacts compared with the approved project
- Impacts will be minimised through environmental management measures and alignment with mitigation used by other projects in the region.

Where to learn more

Further detail on the Project area's biodiversity values, Project-related impacts and proposed mitigation strategies are provided in **Chapter 6 of the Modification Report**.

