

Welcome to the first edition of the Waubra Wind Farm newsletter. This newsletter provides information updates about the Waubra Wind Farm Project approximately 35kms North West of Ballarat. It will be produced on a regular basis. Copies of the newsletter will be inserted in the Pyrenees Advocate and will be available at the offices of the Pyrenees Shire Council and the City of Ballarat.

## Waubra Wind Farm Project

**A**cciona Energy has started building the Waubra Wind Farm in Victoria, the largest of the 154 wind farms that the company has installed across the world.

### Ground Breaking Ceremony

Local Landowners, Leighton Contractors, Local Councillors, Acciona Energy staff, Ballarat & District Aboriginal Co-op, the Local MP and the Energy Minister

Leighton Contractors has been engaged to undertake the civil construction works of access tracks and turbine foundations.

The Waubra Wind Farm Project is located in Waubra, approximately 35kms North West of Ballarat. The Wind Farm is situated in two municipalities, the Shire of Pyrenees and the City of Ballarat. The project site (approximately 173km<sup>2</sup>) is a series of

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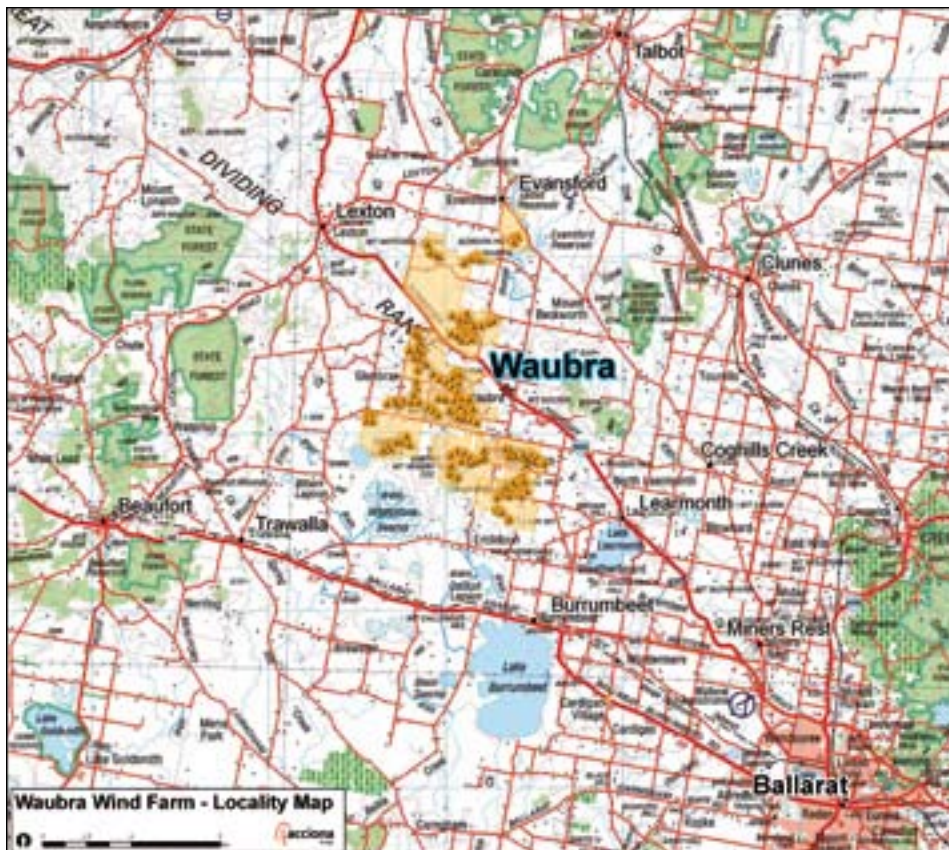
hills and high plateaus which form part of the Great Dividing Range. The site consists primarily of cleared agricultural land used for sheep and cattle grazing and potato growing.

The Waubra Wind Farm will comprise of 128 wind turbines, with associated access tracks, substations and an operations centre. Each turbine will generate 1.5 megawatts (MW) providing a total installed capacity of 192MW. The green energy generated by the Wind Farm each year will provide for 143,000 households — more than enough to power the City of Ballarat. The Wind Farm is expected to offset up to 635,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year. This helps to meet future energy needs without further contributing to the cause of climate change.

The construction of the Waubra Wind Farm Project has been made possible by the Victorian State Government's commitment to a Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET). The VRET provides regulatory stability for investments in clean energies by requiring that electricity retailers purchase a minimum 10 per cent renewable energy by 2016. This scheme fosters the sale of energy produced from wind farms.

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## Timelines

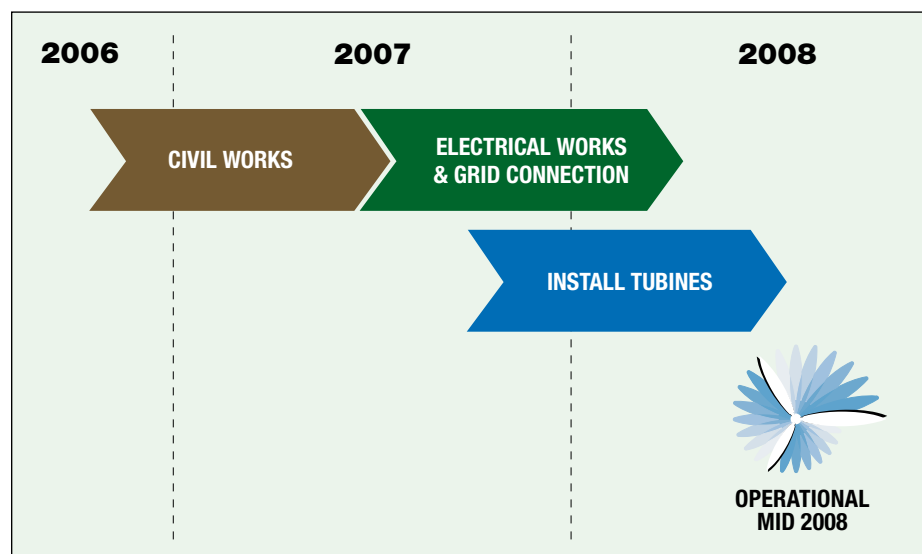
Construction began on the 16 November 2006 with the civil works including construction of access tracks, turbine erection hardstands and turbine foundations.

Electrical works and grid connection are expected to begin in mid 2007

and will take approximately 10 months to complete.

The actual erection of the turbines will commence in late 2007 and continue through to mid 2008.

The Wind Farm is expected to be operational by mid 2008.



# Regional Project Benefits

The Waubra Wind Farm is a significant investment in the region, which is having a positive effect on the regional economy. The project offers many opportunities for the region through employment generation, relationship strengthening and increased tourism and it provides an additional income for local landowners involved in the project.

Acciona Energy is committed to using local construction and manufacturing skills and to sourcing local equipment and materials wherever possible. The construction of the Wind Farm will create around 200 jobs at its peak.

There will be approximately 30 permanent jobs created to operate the Wind Farm. Currently more than 20 regional businesses are involved as subcontractors, such as Eureka Concrete from Ballarat, and 15

regional people are working directly for Leighton Contractors, who were selected to undertake the civil works.

A Sustainable Community Fund has been established to share the benefits of the wind farm widely and to support local projects. The fund will provide approximately \$64,000 per year (indexed to Consumer Price Index) and will contribute over \$1.6 million to the local community over the life of the project. Acciona Energy is committed to helping the community achieve their goals through support from the Sustainable Community Fund. Dialogue will begin later in 2007 on the administration of the fund together with the community.

The project has also been supporting the local CFA during incidents over the last few months, with water trucks being made available to fight fires.

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# Traffic Management

A Traffic Management Plan has been developed for the construction phase. This plan was created in consultation with Vic Roads and both the Pyrenees and Ballarat local councils.

The plan is to manage additional vehicle movements and ensure the conditions of local roads is maintained.

To improve public awareness and safety of increased traffic, additional signage has been installed and line marking has been renewed. In

particular, the Beaufort-Waubra Road and Addington-Langi Kal Kal Road intersection has been upgraded.

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# Community Relations

Acciona Energy is committed to working in partnership with the Waubra community to construct an internationally regarded Wind Farm.

Acciona Energy has recently appointed Sandra Mack as Community Relations Coordinator to liaise with the Waubra community during the construction and operation phase.

Sandra has five years experience working with communities, government and industry stakeholders in Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and Australia.

"I look forward to working with Waubra locals and people from surrounding communities on this exciting project", Sandra said.

"People are welcome to contact me on the free call number or send me an email".

Sandra's contact details are listed on the back page of this newsletter.

Sandra will make regular visits to Waubra to ensure community members are informed and can provide feedback during the construction of the wind farm.

**Community Relations Coordinator:**  
Sandra Mack at the Waubra Wind Farm site



# Provide Your Input

## Call for Expressions of Interest for Community Reference Group

**A**cciona Energy intends to form a Community Reference Group (CRG) for the construction phase of the Waubra Wind Farm. The purpose of the CRG is to provide a regular forum for community input to the project and to facilitate communication between members of the Waubra community and the wind farm construction team.

We are now calling for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) from members of the community who would like to be part of the CRG. Eoi's must be received no later than 9 March 2007. The CRG will meet with the project team every 6-8 weeks during the construction phase, as required. The first meeting will be held in March.

Acciona Energy will select up to 10 members from the local community on the basis of the Eoi received. The members will be selected to ensure a range of interests are represented, including land owners neighbouring the site and members of community organisations.

To register your interest in becoming a member or for further information on the project, please contact Sandra Mack.

**Free call: 1800 283 550**  
**Email: [info@waubrawindfarm.com.au](mailto:info@waubrawindfarm.com.au)**

# Website

## Launching the Waubra Wind Farm Website

**A** website dedicated to the Waubra Wind Farm will be live this month. The site will provide information on the wind farm project, including expert studies, maps and answers to

commonly asked questions.

'Recent News' and new information on the Waubra Wind Farm Project will be published on the website homepage.

Visit [www.waubrawindfarm.com.au](http://www.waubrawindfarm.com.au) from late February.



# Contact Us

**We welcome you to contact us for more information, send through your comments and find out more about the project.**

Call the free public enquiry line  
**1800 283 550**

Visit the Waubra Wind Farm Website  
**[www.waubrawindfarm.com.au](http://www.waubrawindfarm.com.au)**

Send an email to  
**[info@waubrawindfarm.com.au](mailto:info@waubrawindfarm.com.au)**

Fax your comments marked "Waubra Wind Farm" to **(03) 9686 6120**

Post written comments to  
**"Waubra Wind Farm"**  
**Acciona Energy Oceania**  
**Level 1, 95 Coventry St**  
**South Melbourne, VIC 3205**

