



# Wind Farm Developments

## CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING PAPER - NAROGHID WIND FARM -

### INTRODUCTION

Wind Farm Developments (WFD) is investigating the possibility of developing a commercial scale wind farm at Naroghid, about 4 km North of Cobden in Western Victoria. The project would produce up to 40 - 70MW of wind power, and could cost \$100m to construct. This wind farm would help meet Victoria's 1000MW wind target, as well as saving greenhouse gas emissions and producing jobs for Victoria.

### BACKGROUND

WFD is a special purpose company, formed to develop, project manage, commission and operate utility scale wind farm developments in Australia and New Zealand. WFD has offices in Wellington, Melbourne and Adelaide, and is investigating projects in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales. WFD developed the 103 MW Wattle Point wind farm in South Australia, in a joint venture intended to start construction later this year.

### THE PROJECT

The proposed site is located almost 40 km inland in the Shire of Corangamite. The project site consists of cleared agricultural land used primarily for intensive dairy farming. One of the Shire's rubbish tips adjoins the wind farm site.

It is anticipated that the site could accommodate approximately 20 - 35 large scale wind turbines, totalling between 40 - 70MW.

The wind turbine selected will likely be between 105 - 125 metres tall to the tip of the blade. The tower and nacelle is expected to be up to 80m high, and the blades up to 40m long. The wind turbines would typically be located at least 300m apart.

See [www.windfarmdevelopments.net](http://www.windfarmdevelopments.net) for more information and general background on wind turbines.



### THE SITE

The site has been carefully chosen due to many favourable characteristics. Investigations are preliminary at this stage, but the site is believed to have a good wind resource (most critical), low sensitivity in terms of flora and fauna, is in an area of low population density and is underneath a 66kV distribution line. Preliminary inquiries confirm that this 66kV line can accommodate the additional generation, so no additional distribution lines from the wind farm to the electricity network appear necessary.

### BENEFITS

The project will produce sufficient electricity for up to 34,500\* average Victorian homes. The resulting displacement of greenhouse gas emissions is expected to be equivalent to up to 239,000\* tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum.

The cost of this project is expected to be up to \$100m, at least 50% of which is likely to be spent in Victoria. If the wind turbine is manufactured in Victoria, this local expenditure could rise to 85%, or over \$85 million.

## PROJECT HISTORY

The potential site was identified in early 2003. A 50 meter wind mast was erected in August 2003. Wind data is acquired and analyzed on a periodic basis to confirm the magnitude and consistency of the wind resource.

Two flora and fauna studies have been conducted on the site. The conclusion of these studies is that little or no habitat exists on the site for endangered or migratory birds, and therefore a negligible impact would be expected. This would be in line with the recent surveys of existing wind farms documented by Environment Victoria.

There have been a total of five newspaper articles in three local papers to date, so the local community is aware of the proposed project. To date, two neighbors have expressed some concerns with the project, and WFD employees have met with them to better understand their issues. Numerous meetings with the Shire Council Planning office have occurred over the past 12 months. In addition, a meeting with the Shire Council and Senior Officers was held in late 2003. There appear to be no ostensible planning issues with regards to zoning, and there are no environmental overlays on the project site.

## PROJECT TIMETABLE

(subject to change)

EPBC Referral	May 2004
EES Direction Submission	June 2004
Community Open Day	Aug 2004
Development Application	Sept. 2004
Commence Construction	May 2005

## STATISTICS

<b>Electrical Capacity Megawatts</b>	<b>Up to 70</b>
<b>Greenhouse gas Savings / year</b>	<b>239,000* tonnes</b>
<b>Homes Powered</b>	<b>34,500*</b>
<b>Equiv. Cars removed from the road / year</b>	<b>55,000*</b>

## PHOTOS OF THE NAROGHID SITE



## FURTHER INFORMATION

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