Community Newsletter

December 2024





At a glance







Project update

As we approach the end of the year, the Conargo Wind Farm team – Jess, Aurore and Nadine – would like to extend our thanks for your continued interest and involvement in the project. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration in the year ahead.

Conargo Wind Farm in the community

Our sponsorship program is open and we encourage local groups to apply. The program allows us to actively engage with and support the community by partnering with local groups and organisations to deliver events, programs, and infrastructure.

Through this exciting initiative, we are pursuing projects that foster community connection and promote local economic development. To date we have sponsored organisations like Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council Inc (YACTAC) and Deniliquin Field and Game Club Inc.

If you are interested in applying for sponsorship, please visit <u>www.</u> squadronenergy.com/communitysponsorship.

Community consultation

In March 2024, the project team held a community information session in Conargo. Since then, we have been engaging with individual community members, as well as local organisations including the Rural Fire Service (RFS) and Council's economic development team. During these meetings we discussed the project, explored potential collaboration opportunities and sought feedback to inform the project design.

We continue to visit the area regularly and are available to meet with locals who are interested in the project.



Planning

In May 2024 the project entered the NSW planning system by requesting the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs). A Scoping Report detailing key information and identifying environmental and social considerations for the project was submitted.

The Scoping Report and SEARs are both available under the Documents tab on the <u>project website</u>.

In 2025, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared in accordance with the SEARs which will require a range of multi-disciplinary studies, including biodiversity, visual, noise, Aboriginal and European heritage, traffic and social, to assess the existing environment and predicted impacts and benefits of the project.

Some field investigations have started, including site-specific seasonal biodiversity studies. The technical studies and community feedback will help inform the project design. We expect the EIS will be submitted to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure in late 2025. We will keep the community informed as the project progresses, including when the EIS is on public exhibition for community review and comment.

The EIS will follow the new guidelines released in November 2024 by the NSW Government. The <u>Renewable Energy Planning Framework</u> sets out revised guidelines to support the development and assessment of large-scale renewable energy projects. The Wind Energy Guideline includes technical supplements for the evaluation of visual and noise impacts. The guidelines also provide updated information on the way developers should share the benefits of projects with surrounding communities.

South West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) Access Rights Tender

The project is participating in the <u>South West REZ access rights tender</u> run by AEMO Services. The project is proposed to connect to either Dinawan Substation or the Victoria to NSW Interconnector West (VNI West) transmission line. We anticipate information regarding the tender outcome in early 2025, and we will keep you updated as we move forward.

Company update

It has been a busy year for Squadron Energy. We are 100% Australian owned with 1.1 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy in operation and 900MW under construction.

Find out more about our progress this year in our Year in review and our FY2024 Sustainability Report.

Our impact to date

7m tonnes of emissions avoided

2,100 created

\$350m regional investment

Current status

Operational:

1.1GW

In construction:

900MW

2 wind farms

Next steps

We continue to evolve the project design based on the insights gained from ongoing environmental assessments and feedback from community consultation.

We encourage you to share your questions, concerns, and feedback. Your input is valuable in informing the project design.



Contact us

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