



FACT SHEET: OCTOBER 2006

The Victorian Government has recently implemented the *Victorian Renewable Energy Target* which requires electricity retailers to purchase 10% of their energy from renewable sources by 2016. This policy forms part of the *Our Environment, Our Future - Sustainability Action Statement 2006* released on July 17th, and is expected to provide significant scope for the expansion of renewable energy in Victoria, including wind farms. Groundwork for the expansion of Victorian wind farms has already been set with the publication of the *Policy and Planning Guidelines for the development of wind energy facilities in Victoria*. This document provides a comprehensive framework to ensure that wind farm proposals are assessed against a set of strict guidelines taking into account stringent environmental, economic, social and cultural considerations.

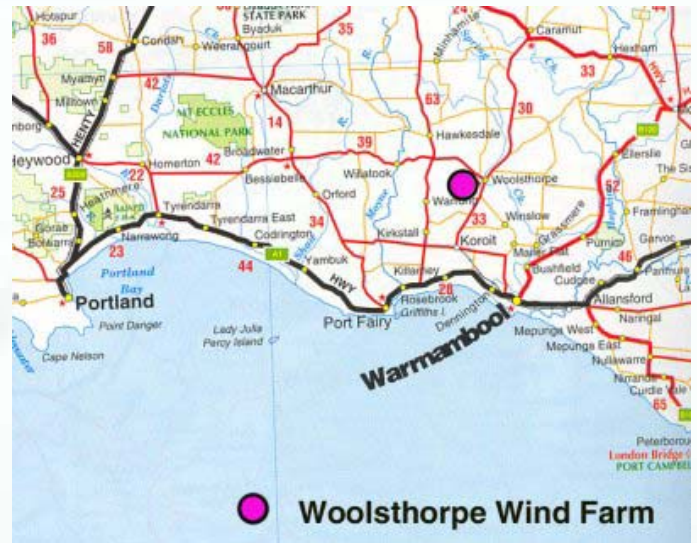
Woolsthorpe Wind Farm Pty Ltd (WWF) aims to contribute to this target with the development of a wind farm 4km west of Woolsthorpe in south west Victoria. The project would likely produce 40MW of electricity- enough power for up to 23,000 homes and requiring an investment of up to \$85 million. The generation of wind power at Woolsthorpe will provide construction jobs for Victorians, and help meet the State Government's Victorian Renewable Energy Target.

BACKGROUND

WWF is a subsidiary of Wind Farm Developments (WFD) which was formed to develop, project manage, commission and operate utility scale wind farm developments in Australia and New Zealand. WFD has offices in Melbourne and Wellington, and is investigating projects on both sides of the Tasman. In May 2003, WFD secured development approval for the 91MW Wattle Point Wind Farm on Yorke Peninsula in South Australia and the 42MW Naroghid Wind Farm near Cobden in south west Victoria last month.

PROJECT DETAILS

The proposed wind farm site is approximately 20 kilometres inland from the coast in Moyne Shire in south west Victoria. Located about 4 km west of Woolsthorpe and 10 km south east of Hawkesdale.



Each turbine would be up to 135 metres in height from the tower base to the tip of the blade. The tower is expected to be 75-90m high, and the blades 40-50m long. The turbines would be placed at least 400-500 meters apart. The wind turbines would be connected via underground cables, with a small substation located on the site.

A feasibility assessment confirms that the Woolsthorpe site:

- has an excellent wind resource
- has been extensively cleared and is of low sensitivity in terms of ecologically significant flora and fauna
- is in an area of low population density
- sufficient capacity exists to connect the project to the Koroit substation
- the visual impact will be slight to moderate

A determination that the proposed Woolsthorpe wind farm would not affect nationally significant or endangered flora and fauna was received from the Commonwealth Government in February 2005.



Looking south across the proposed site



PROJECT TIMETABLE

A 40m mast with wind measuring equipment was erected on site in July 2002. Over 4 years of wind data has now been collected and analysed, revealing good wind characteristics suitable for the development of a wind farm.

As the proposed wind farm will be over 30MW, the Victorian Minister for Planning is the responsible authority for assessing the proposed development. As part of this process we have undertaken a series of detailed environmental and technical studies to assess the impact of noise, visual, cultural and ecological values from the wind farm. The Planning Application for the wind farm will be lodged in the 4th quarter of 2006. If planning consent was obtained by the second quarter of 2007, construction could begin in 2008.

BENEFITS

The wind farm will produce clean, pollution free electricity for up to 23,000 households. The resulting displacement of greenhouse gas emissions is expected to be equivalent to up to 132,400* tonnes of CO₂ per annum. The capital cost of the wind farm is estimated at \$85m, with a significant amount to be spent in Victoria.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

A community open day was held in June 2005 at the Woolsthorpe Public Hall, where Project Team members met with the public to provide information about and discuss the project. Some turbine locations have been moved since in order to avoid potential impact on native vegetation, but the site boundary remains the same.

There is further information available on the project web site. Interested parties are encouraged to call or email us at the location below with any queries or comments. In addition, potential construction vendors are encouraged to register their interest on the website.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Woolsthorpe Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Address for service
c- 31 Spring Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Email: enquiries@windfarmdevelopments.net
Tel: (03) 9639 9290
Fax: (03) 9639 3146
www.woolsthorpewindfarm.com

WIND ENERGY FACTS

- Wind power is the world's fastest growing energy source
- There are over 40,000 wind turbines installed worldwide
- Australia has an excellent wind resource with over 800MW of installed wind turbines and more than four times that approved for construction
- A wind farm typically occupies less than 3% of the land area so farming operations can continue as normal

WOOLSTHORPE WIND FARM STATISTICS

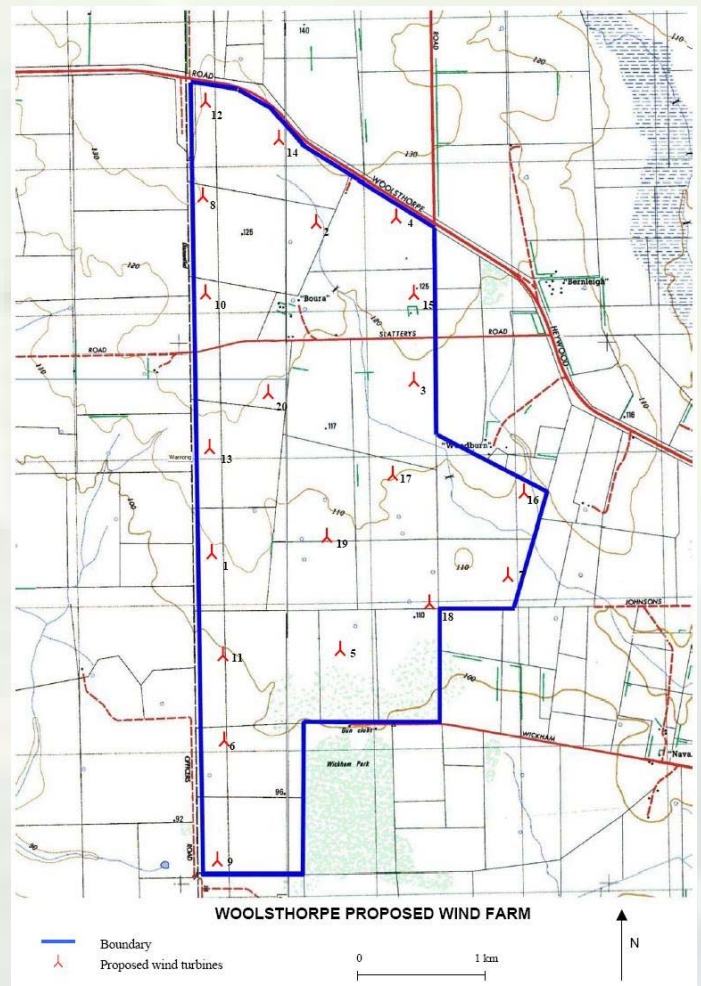
Generating Capacity: 40MW

Greenhouse Gas Savings/Year: Up to 132400* tonnes

Homes Powered: Up to 23,000* homes

Capital Cost: Approximately \$85 million

*Calculations according to Assessment of Greenhouse Gas Abatement from Wind Farms in Victoria, Report to Sustainability Victoria, July 2006



Site Boundary & Turbine Layout of Site