



Biala Wind Farm - Issues and Responses Register

This Issues and Responses Register collates the questions and comments received through the Project website and direct correspondence with the Project team. All issues raised have been compiled in the register and therefore, some issues may appear more than once.

Comments/ Question	Date	Newtricity Response
Issues and Responses Register – Updated 1 April 2015		
Concerns relating to high voltage power lines including their environmental and social impacts.	31.01.2015	Concerns regarding the high voltage power lines have been acknowledged and will be taken into consideration as part of the environmental assessment for the transmission line. It is noted that the approval for the transmission line will be sought separately from the wind farm and will therefore not be assessed in detailed in the Environmental Impact Statement.
Objection to wind turbines being erected in Biala/Upper Lachlan Shire.	31.01.2015	Objections to the wind turbines in the Biala/Upper Lachlan Shire region have been acknowledged. Potential impacts associated with the Biala Wind Farm, including consideration of cumulative impacts associated with other wind farm projects in the area, will be addressed as part of the Environmental Impact Statement.
Concerns information about the company status of Newtricity as provided in information documents is incorrect, vis: <i>“Newtricity is a registered Australian owned renewable energy company, with Directors also based in Ireland”</i>	02.02.2015	In relation to the incorrect information provided on the Project website and as part of presentation material, Newtricity apologise and note this was not intentional. The website has been updated to reflect that Newtricity is a family owned Australian based renewable energy business established in 2004, with investors based in Ireland.
Concerns relating to hosts’ responsibilities surrounding decommissioning, property prices.	18.02.2015	The concerns raised in relation to the decommissioning of the windfarm will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement currently being prepared for the Project, which will go on public exhibition towards the middle of the year. The Draft NSW Planning Guidelines: Wind Farms (2011) specifically require that the proponent/wind farm owner rather than the “host” landowner must retain responsibility for decommissioning. Potential impacts on property values will be taken into consideration throughout the development and compilation of the Environmental Impact Statement.
Concerns relating to cloud coverage of photomontages displayed during the Community Information Day in January 2015.	08/03/2015	The photomontages displayed at the Community Information Day in January 2015 were preliminary viewpoints only. The photomontages which will form part of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are currently being prepared following site visits in early March 2015. These site visits were delayed due to the weather to ensure that cloud cover was at a minimum for the photography component. The photomontages and LVIA will be made available during the public exhibition period for the Environmental Impact Statement.
Request Newtricity confirm the height of the turbines - ground to blade tip	08/03/2015	The turbine dimensions adopted for assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Statement and technical assessment include a rotor diameter of up to 150 m (blade length of up to 75 m) giving an overall tip height of 185 m.

Comments/ Question	Date	Newtricity Response
Enquiry surrounding public exhibition period of the EIS.	10/03/2015	<p>In relation to the public exhibition period, all the documentation that accompanies the Environmental Impact Statement will be made available to the public on the Department of Planning and Environment's (DP&E) website. The public exhibition period will run for a period of 60 days. Newtricity intends to hold a further community information day prior to the commencement of the exhibition period. In terms of timing, Newtricity is unable to advise on the exact month as it will be dependent on the Test of Adequacy review undertaken by DP&E and any additional work that Newtricity may need to undertake.</p> <p>Newtricity will continue to keep the community updated on the progress of the approvals process and the intended date of the public exhibition period.</p>