

# BIALA WIND FARM

## Newsletter

April 2019

We're keen to keep you informed on what's happening with Biala Wind Farm. We issue newsletters monthly, or more frequently if there is important news to share. To receive **future newsletters**, sign up at **[bialawindfarm.com/subscription](http://bialawindfarm.com/subscription)**.

### Range Road Upgrades

Range Road upgrade work has now commenced. The work is expected to take about three months. The upgrade work covers the section of Range Road between the intersections with Kialla Road and Grabben Gullen Road.

The upgrade to Range Road will be completed in sections of 500 to 1,000 metres. Traffic lights will be in place and one lane will remain open to help minimise disruptions. Drivers may encounter delays of several minutes at the lights and will be required to reduce speed in the sections between the lights.

Occasionally drivers may experience slightly longer delays when both sides of the road need to be closed. Attempts will be made to schedule these longer delays outside of peak travel periods.

At all other times, traffic lights will be in place and one lane will remain open. If you would like more information please **call 1800 370 045** or **email [info@bialawindfarm.com](mailto:info@bialawindfarm.com)**.

### Grabben Gullen Community Hall

BJCE Australia is excited to fund the installation of a reverse cycle air-conditioning unit at the Grabben Gullen Community Hall. The hall is of great value to the community and we hope to host some of our project meetings there. The air-conditioning unit will both cool the hall in summer and warm it in winter. We hear it is already installed and was put to good use on election day.

### Text Message Service

Biala Wind Farm is implementing a text messaging service to communicate with nearby neighbours about any work we are doing on public roads and to give advance notice of large deliveries on their way to the site. If you live nearby and are interested in receiving construction updates please email us on [info@bialawindfarm.com](mailto:info@bialawindfarm.com) or call 1800 370 045 to leave a message and we will call you back to subscribe you for this service. You can opt out of receiving future SMS communication by replying UNSUBSCRIBE at any time.

### Project Developments

The next key step for this project is to place the major contracts for the supply and installation of the wind turbines and for the civil and electrical works. We hope to settle these contracts in the next month or so. Once they are placed we will make an announcement on our website.

We intend to begin construction of the wind farm in mid 2019 with electricity being generated in the first quarter of 2020.

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## Our Neighbour Program

Biala Wind Farm has announced a benefit sharing program with neighbours located in close proximity to the project. The Neighbour Program incorporates recommendations made by the Office of the National Wind Farm Commissioner regarding community enhancement and sharing the financial benefit of a wind farm beyond those whose land the turbines are constructed on.

The voluntary Neighbour Program allows eligible landholders to share in the financial benefits through an annual payment, for the life of the project. To be eligible, neighbours must be located within 3km of a Biala Wind Farm turbine. As part of their participation in the program, neighbours are requested to acknowledge that during construction of the project, there will be some minor impacts. Although all neighbours within 3km are eligible for the voluntary program, neighbours can elect not to be part of it. Landholders who will have turbines constructed on their property are not eligible. The Neighbour Program is split into three payment bands depending on the distance between the neighbour's residence (or landholding if there is no residence) and the nearest wind turbine. Annual payments range from \$1,500 to \$5,000.

The Program will sit alongside the Biala Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund, which will provide approximately \$90,000 per annum for community projects during wind farm operations. For the first three years of operation, community projects within a 5km radius of Biala Wind Farm will be the main funding priority for the Community Enhancement Fund.

All eligible landholders have been contacted and we are in the process of meeting with those who are interested. For more information about our Neighbour Program, please visit [bialawindfarm.com](http://bialawindfarm.com)

## Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

The next CCC meeting will be held on the 28th of May 2019 from 5pm. If you have any questions about the project, members of the CCC can raise them on your behalf at these meetings. Member contact details are available on our website. If you are interested in observing, please register your interest with the independent chairperson, Nic Carmody on 0429 354 582 or email [nic.carmody@bigpond.com](mailto:nic.carmody@bigpond.com).

## About the Project

Biala Wind Farm is located approximately 6km south of Grabben Gullen on Grabben Gullen Road. It is owned by BJCE Australia, who also own Gullen Range Wind Farm and Gullen Solar Farm. Biala Wind Farm is proposed to have 31 turbines and was awarded a Development Approval in April 2017 by the NSW Planning Assessment Commission. It will connect to the electricity grid via underground electricity cables from the Gullen Range Wind Farm substation at Bannister.

**Proposed Project Timeline**  
**Here is our current schedule**  
**We'll update it in each of**  
**our monthly newsletters**

Approvals, design work, surveys	Now until June 2019
Roadwork to Range Road	Now until July 2019
Onsite civil and electrical work	July 2019 to April 2020
Delivery and erection of wind turbines	January 2020 to July 2020
Commissioning of wind turbines	March 2020 to July 2020