

# BIALA WIND FARM

## Newsletter

October 2020

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 via email, please sign up at [bialawindfarm.com/subscription](http://bialawindfarm.com/subscription).

### Construction update

Commissioning and erection of wind turbines continues to progress well.

There are now 24 turbines fully erected and 13 ready to generate electricity. Seven turbines are still to be erected.

Goldwind has recently mobilised a second main crane. The crane components arrived in early October and took two weeks to set-up. This crane is now erecting the most southern turbines on the project. Utilising two cranes to erect the remaining turbines will shorten the duration of project construction.

Construction of the Operations and Maintenance facility is complete, apart from the final car park tar seal and fencing which will be completed in early November.

We expect to have all turbines fully erected by the end of this year and there are currently ten turbines generating electricity. Formal operation of the project will occur when all 31 turbines are operating, they have passed reliability trials and TransGrid has confirmed that the electricity being generated meets the requirements of the electricity grid. This is expected to occur by the end of March 2021, subject to TransGrid's timeframes.



Revegetation onsite



Constructed Operations and Maintenance facility



Second crane mobilised



Second crane mobilised

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Biala Wind Farm

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## Meet Shane!

As an Installation Supervisor for Goldwind Australia, Shane McCann is responsible for the safe construction of wind turbine generators. He and his family moved to Grabben Gullen from Wollongong in 2009 and found it's been a great place to bring up their daughter.

Shane directs and leads the installation teams and oversees the handover from the installation to the commissioning of the wind turbines. He also manages the health and safety of the main crane crews and mechanical installation crew which includes daily meetings to brief workers on construction updates and any new hazards onsite. Problem solving and communication are key skills to perform his role successfully.

Shane previously worked as a Site Supervisor for ARES Group Transport on Biala Wind Farm, ensuring the safe delivery of the wind turbine generator components from Port Kembla to Biala Wind Farm. He also worked on the construction of Gullen Range Wind Farm in 2013.



## Gullen Range Wind Farm Community Funds supports five local groups in 2020/21

Five local groups will benefit from Community Fund grants in the 2020/21 Funding Round, together totalling \$65,043.90. The Gullen Range Wind Farm Community Fund provides annual grants to projects or initiatives that benefit the community within 10km of the wind farm. It forms part of the Gullen Range Wind Farm Community Enhancement Program (or CEP). Visit [www.gullenrangewindfarm.com](http://www.gullenrangewindfarm.com) for more information.

Funds from the Biala Wind Farm Community Fund are expected to become available to community groups in mid 2021, pending the formal operation of the full wind farm and the set-up of the governing committee by Upper Lachlan Shire Council. We'll be providing more information on the Fund in upcoming newsletters.

## Community Consultative Committee (CCC) update

The next meeting will be held at Grabben Gullen Hall on Tuesday 17th November 2020, commencing at 5pm. If you have any questions about the project, members of the CCC can raise them on your behalf. Minutes of all previous meetings are available on our website to read or download. For more information about CCC meetings please contact the Independent Chair, 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 approx. 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 will have 31 turbines and was awarded a Development Approval in April 2017 by the NSW Planning Assessment Commission. It connects to the electricity grid via underground electricity cables from the Gullen Range Wind Farm substation at Bannister. BJCE Australia commenced construction of the wind farm in August 2019 with full operation expected in early 2021.

### Current Project Timeline

We update this in each of our monthly newsletters

Roadworks to Range Road	Complete
Onsite civil and electrical work	Complete
Delivery of wind turbine components	Complete
Substation extension	Complete
Installation of underground transmission line	Complete
Biala O&M building	Now to November 2020
Erection of wind turbines	Now to December 2020
Commissioning of wind turbines	Now to January 2021
Completion of electricity grid testing and commencement of formal operation	March 2021

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