

We're keen to keep you informed on what's happening. To receive future newsletters via email, please sign up at bialawindfarm.com/subscription.

Biala Wind Farm commissioning progress

The next stage of the commissioning process will be to progress to operating 15 turbines during testing periods. We are awaiting confirmation from the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) to allow us to start this phase. When AEMO and TransGrid confirm their satisfaction with testing 15 turbines, they will grant approval for up to 19 turbines to generate clean power.

The process for commissioning new power generation is extremely rigorous and designed to ensure that new projects can integrate smoothly with the electricity network. Results of the testing conducted so far have been positive. Commissioning also involves analysis of computer models provided by turbine supplier Goldwind. These models plug into a model of the entire electricity network, which is used by AEMO to simulate how the network will behave under various conditions. Work to refine these models continues.

We expect to progress to the final stage, with all 31 turbines in operation, by the end of 2021.

Biala construction update

The rehabilitation work of the Biala construction compound has now been completed.

We have upgraded the wind turbine software at Gullen Range Wind Farm to enable Biala Wind Farm and Gullen Range to operate together more effectively once Biala becomes fully operational.

Biala Community Enhancement Fund

Applications to the Biala Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund closed in August. We were pleased to see a total of four applications submitted for grant funding. The Section 355 Committee, which comprises local residents alongside two Upper Lachlan Shire Council delegates and a Biala Wind Farm representative, is expected to meet in the coming weeks to assess applications and recommend which projects should be awarded funding.

Just over \$92,000 was made available this year and we look forward to seeing the successful projects come to fruition. For more information about the Community Fund, visit the Biala Wind Farm [website](#).

Biala TV Reception Program

The Biala Wind Farm TV Reception Program is open and proving popular with local residents. The program recognises local TV reception has been unreliable since before the Biala turbines were installed. The scheme aims to improve reception across the area and is available to eligible local homes, whether or not their reception has been affected by Biala Wind Farm.

More information, including an eligibility map and application form can be found on the Biala Wind Farm [website](#).

Biala Landscaping Program

Applications for the Biala Landscaping Program opened in April 2021. This program is designed to comply with conditions of our development approval. The program allows eligible residences within 4km of Biala Wind Farm to choose from two mitigation options. Further details, including how to apply, are available on the Biala Wind Farm [website](#). The program is open until August 2024.

Biala project timeline

Roadworks to Range Road	Complete
Onsite civil and electrical work	Complete
Delivery of wind turbine components	Complete
Substation extension	Complete
Installation of underground electrical transmission line	Complete
Biala O&M building	Complete
Erection of wind turbines	Complete
Commissioning of wind turbines	Complete
Completion of electricity grid testing and commencement of formal Operation	Ongoing

Gullen Range Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund

Three local organisations' projects will benefit from funding following the latest round of the Gullen Range Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund. Crookwell Rugby Club was one of the successful applicants and will now be able to repair the commentary box at the town's Memorial Oval, ahead of the 2022 season.

Crookwell Lions Club will put the funding towards purchasing two shipping containers to help store the club's vital fundraising equipment in a more convenient location.

Support from the fund will also allow Bannister District Hall Association to continue its renovation to upgrade the Bannister Hall.

We look forward to hearing more about all these projects as they take shape.

More than \$70,000 is available every year to community groups within 10km of Gullen Range Wind Farm. More information is available on the project website here. Please [contact us](#) directly if you have questions.



Paddy Lenane, (Crookwell Senior Devils), Edward Price (Crookwell Dogs), Phillip Cramp (Crookwell Junior Devils) and Ian McIntosh (Crookwell Dogs)

Gullen Range Wind Farm Clean Energy Program

The Clean Energy Program has achieved a new milestone, with the 75th installation successfully completed.

Under the Program, eligible homes within 5km of the Gullen Range turbines can benefit from grants for solar panels, solar hot water heating, battery systems or energy efficient measures such as double glazing or insulation. Gullen Range Wind Farm will contribute up to \$7,000 per person, if the application is successful.

The next round of applications will close on 22 December 2021 and the program will run throughout the wind farm's working life. Downloadable application forms and more information can be found on the Gullen Range Wind Farm [website](#).

COVID-19 protocols

Following the current COVID-19 outbreak and the subsequent restrictions imposed, we have been reviewing our guidance to ensure we comply with health orders at all times.

Only visitors providing essential services can access the Wind Farms. Contractors seeking access from outside the Upper Lachlan Shire are required to declare where they are travelling from, list recently visited locations and submit evidence of a negative COVID-19 test from the previous seven days before our maintenance contractor, Goldwind Australia, will grant approval.