



Shooting the Breeze...

Official newsletter of Denmark Community Windfarm Inc

No 3

January 2005

EPA gives windfarm the thumbs-up

On December 29 the Environmental Protection Authority delivered its decision on our community windfarm proposal, setting a level of "Scheme Not Assessed - Advice Given".

The decision cleared the way for the shire council to advertise its rezoning of a portion of Reserve 24913, where the windfarm is proposed. The 42-day public submission period began on January 11.

The EPA's decision was a long time coming – the shire council approved the advertising of Town

Planning Scheme Amendment 88 back in August last year but the EPA's 28-day assessment process did not begin until two requests for additional information had been met.

The final EPA advice included requirements that noise monitoring be conducted and a number of conditions be placed on the rezoning, including road construction detail, public access, rehabilitation, and a maximum of six turbines (the proposal is for four). continued over ...



Denmark Community Windfarm - visual influence

Simulated views from popular vantage points around Denmark

Modelled using Windfarm v3.1 (Hewlett Pty Ltd)

NOTE: turbines have been graphically enhanced, to aid recognition.

Monkey Rock looking southeast. Distance 3.1km
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 527 297 mE, 612 5921 mN



Car Ocean Beach & Lights rd looking south. Distance 3km.
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 539 785 mE, 612 6116 mN



Prawn Rock Channel looking south. Distance 1.5km.
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 532 791 mE, 612 4167 mN



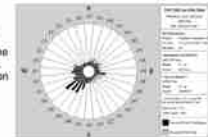
Poison Point looking southwest. Distance 6km.
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 532 393 mE, 612 6151 mN



Layout of windfarm
The ellipses define how close the turbines can be to one another. The angle of each ellipse and its shape are determined by the predominant winds (see wind rose on right).



The wind rose indicates predominant wind direction and energy over 12 months, as measured by the wind monitoring mast at the proposed site. The rose shows that the greatest wind energy is from the southwest. This information helps determine the position and angle of the turbines.



Lights Beach carpark looking east. Distance 4.3km
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 525 167 mE, 612 4442 mN



Lions Lookout looking west. Distance 500m.
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 530 153 mE, 612 3963 mN



Inlet mouth looking south. Distance 1.4km.
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 530 256 mE, 612 3937 mN



First Reef looking southwest. Distance 1.9km
GPS coordinates: zone 50, 530 660 mE, 612 4350 mN

Worth a thousand words ...

As part of our ongoing public consultation program we recently produced a series of posters to show the predicted visual influence of the windfarm.

(One of the problems we had with previous attempts to show the windfarm's visual influence was actually seeing the turbines ! so this time we've deliberately over-emphasised them, so that they show up against the background.)

Ranging in size from A1 down to A3, the posters have been put up around town and are drawing lots of supportive comment. The posters comprise eight computer-modelled photo-montages showing how the windfarm is likely to appear from various popular vantage points, such as Poison Point, Lights Beach, First Reef etc.

The custom-made program used to create the highly-accurate photomontages is used by many windfarm projects throughout the world.

- from front page

EPA gives thumbs-up

Noise level monitoring will need to meet the standards of the WA Planning Commission's Guidelines for Wind Farm Development.

DCW acting chairman Craig Chappelle said that noise was not an issue of concern, because modern turbines are very quiet, and the distance to the nearest residences was over the recommended setback of 800m-1000m.

Most of the planning conditions had already been covered in the shire's August rezoning requirements, he said.

Access to the grid

The \$25 000 steady-state study by Western Power Networks is nearly complete, with several solutions recently identified to solve an inherent problem of voltage rise and 'flicker'.

The thermal limit of the existing high voltage line can be overcome by rewiring the southernmost 870m, which will reduce steady-state voltage rise and increase the fault level at the point of connection.

This in turn will reduce flicker (the variation in voltage that can be detected by the human eye).

Our electrical engineering consultant, Econnect, has suggested five possible solutions and is currently working with Western Power to find the most cost-effective.

A flicker and harmonics analysis at the point of connection has been completed by the Technical Services Engineering branch of Western Power Networks to help resolve this issue.

Taking it to the people

One of the most satisfying aspects of the past ten months has been the enthusiasm shown by so many local people for the windfarm.

DCW chairman Craig Chappelle and technical consultant Paul Llewellyn have given presentations to a variety of groups, including the Shire Council, Lions, Probus Club, Wilson Inlet Management Advisory Group (WIMAG), Chamber of Commerce, Water and Rivers Commission and Denmark Environment Centre.

People have shown enormous interest in the project and the vast majority have been supportive – in fact, the most common question Craig and Paul get is "When's it going to start generating electricity?!"

Come and visit the DCW website

The Denmark Community Windfarm website is up and running - go to www.denmarkcommunitywindfarm.org.au and take a look around.

A million thanks to webmaster Tim Dunn for his inspired work, and to SkyFarming for hosting us prior to the construction of our own site – and for so much great material.

If you have any comments, suggestions etc send an email to info@denmarkcommunitywindfarm.org.au

Inaugural AGM to be held next month

Our inaugural annual general meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8 February, at the ambulance hall. All members – past, present and future – are invited, and urged to consider standing for the management committee. Please complete the membership form below, before the AGM, if you wish to vote.

This project is supported by funding from the Australian Government under its Regional Partnerships programme, and the WA Sustainable Energy Development Office.



Denmark Community Windfarm Inc

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Membership application

Name/s (PLEASE PRINT)

Postal Address

Residential Address (IF DIFFERENT).....

Phone..... Fax

Email (PLEASE PRINT)

Fees enclosed: \$5 individual > \$10 household > \$25 corporate >

Signed Date.....

Please post your completed form, with your payment to the address above. Thank you.

OFFICE USE

Mbsp Yr

Date Rec / /

Rcpt No