

## December 2020 Neighbour information sessions - Summary

### Overview:

Wambo Wind Farm held information sessions for immediate neighbours of the proposed Wambo Wind Farm on Wednesday, 9 and Thursday, 10 December 2020. The information sessions were attended by 20 residents. COVID management precautions were in place to manage the health and safety of presenters and participants. The following is a summary of the key themes and questions from the sessions.

TOPIC	THEME	PROJECT RESPONSE
<b>Neighbour payments</b>	Are neighbourhood payments seeking something in return?	No, Wambo is meeting industry best practice and taking learnings from past projects. There is no expectation of preventing neighbours from making comment. We do ask that you work with us to resolve issues.
	Who is included in neighbour benefit program?	Houses 3km from turbine and property 1.5km from turbine are included.
	Concern raised that deals have been done with neighbours, with one on one meetings rather than a community meeting.	The Qld Planning Code outlines the requirements for the placement of turbines, and this has been followed in the design of the turbine layout. Wambo have used computer models accessing wind together with environmental constraints – not landowner specific deals.
	\$100k is a small amount of money.	Wambo is going over and above the industry standard for neighbour payments and have engaged with a variety of stakeholders. The project status remains uncertain, although State approval has been granted. Other options to cash are being considered, and this is why we are engaging with the immediate neighbours to discuss.
	Stage 1 or Stage 2 payments for landholders?	Landholders who qualify will get payments based on the turbines that are built. Stage 2 may mean more than \$100k is provided annually, and Stage 1 payments will not be reduced should additional turbines be built in Stage 2.
	Will they be annual payments?	Yes, for those landholders who are eligible

If there is \$100k for neighbourhood payments, how will the staging work?

This depends on the amount of turbines in Stage 1. Up to 20 landholders meet current criteria for both stages, but less for Stage 1 only. Once the number of turbines are confirmed, the amount of funds to be shared by Wambo won't reduce. Any new landholders for new turbines will get the same amount as for Stage 1.

Wambo will continue to review the Community Benefit Fund – we have received suggestions that the focus of the fund should shift with less in Jandowae and more to the Diamondy community and those who may be impacted.

Wambo understands that some landowners may not want cash due to existing financial arrangements, and Wambo is looking at other mechanisms. Landowners will be paid once the nearby turbine is erected, regardless of whether it is operational.

Will participating landholders also get the neighbourhood payment?

Participating landholders will not get both payments, even with multiple parcels of land.

Could you consider a third tier to suit individual circumstances? I.e. more than 2 turbines, and increased payment?

Wambo will look into the suggestion.

Could you extend payments beyond 1.5km from homes?

Wambo will consider this suggestion.

Suggest exclusion for participating landholders to access benefits from construction, fencing, earthmoving etc., first offer should be to neighbours.

Wambo is considering this feedback.

	Ridgelines are not used for farming, put the turbines there.	
	Participating landholders should have turbines close to their houses, not neighbours.	
<b>Rate increase</b>	How will you manage the rate increase for landowners?	Wambo will pay rate increases for participating landholders.
<b>Cultural heritage</b>	Are you engaging with the Western Wakka Wakka people?	A letter has been written to traditional owner representatives, seeking to engage with them.
<b>Employment and business opportunities</b>	Business in town is the key, to make a real impact.	Weed spraying, road maintenance, construction, fencing, gravel, other local jobs will be available during construction. Email <a href="mailto:wambowindfarm@tsbe.com.au">wambowindfarm@tsbe.com.au</a> to register.
	Can we put our name down to access work or supply resources?	We will get resources as locally as possible as this benefits the local community. Email <a href="mailto:wambowindfarm@tsbe.com.au">wambowindfarm@tsbe.com.au</a> to register.  Wambo will be seeking local government approval as part of next stage for quarrying, concrete batching plant, etc. Wambo is working with Council to get these approvals. There are 86 quarries in the Council area. Government has committed to more wind farms in the region
<b>Fire prevention and equipment</b>	Will you have firefighting equipment on site during construction?	Yes, appropriate equipment will be on site during construction and operation.
	Can we apply to the Community Benefit Fund for local firefighting equipment?	The Community Benefit Fund could be used to acquire other local firefighting equipment.
<b>Communications and Community engagement</b>	When was first community meeting? How are you communicating with the community?	Due to COVID community sessions have started recently. Information sessions were held in September 2020, December 2020 and there will be one in February 2021.  The project has also established a newsletter to provide regular updates on the project. The newsletter will be available via the website or

		<p>residents can register to receive the newsletter via <a href="http://www.wambowindfarm.com.au/#contact">www.wambowindfarm.com.au/#contact</a></p>
	<p>Are neighbour concerns being heard by Wambo?</p>	<p>Wambo is meeting with all the project neighbours. The project contact details are available via the website and the team is pleased to speak directly with neighbours to answer any questions.</p> <p>The project is also using community meetings and has established a complaint process to receive feedback and complaints.</p>
<b>Crop spraying / aviation</b>	<p>What are you going to do about turbines during spraying? / What about planes and 250m turbines?</p>	<p>The project will consult with CASA and Air Services Australia (ASA) to ensure the project meets their respective requirements for light aircraft. The project will also work with landholders on this matter.</p>
	<p>What will you do about our aircraft, and that we land on our driveway?</p>	<p>The State approval requirement has an aviation assessment, and that manages aviation traffic.</p> <p>We are advised that CASA has a recommendation for staying 3kms away. We may need to consider management of that individual turbine i.e. slow it down if you tell us when you are flying. This could form part of the Neighbour Agreement and management protocols.</p>
	<p>We will see all of the turbines?</p>	<p>The aviation impact assessment and approval requires a red light on only the highest turbine. This is largely based on lessons learnt from other projects and visual amenity. The project meets safety requirements from aviation perspective.</p>
<b>Visual amenity</b>	<p>How will you protect the visual amenity and my views?</p>	<p>The Government has set the area for corridor for renewables, and Wambo is following the stringent conditions of State Code 23 and we are working through community engagement. We understand there may be impacts.</p> <p>Neighbour payments will available so that nearby properties can share in the benefits from the Wambo Wind Farm.</p>
<b>Site selection</b>	<p>Are you aware of local land sales and is Wambo involved?</p>	<p>That is a matter for the vendor of the land.</p>

	<p>Can the project stay north of Diamondy Rd?</p> <p>Will you buy properties from those who want to leave?</p>	<p>The Project hasn't made a final decision of which turbines will be constructed. The key is access to wind and constructability of the turbines.</p> <p>Wambo will work through the State Code 23, and financial compensation through neighbourhood agreements. The project would like to understand how we can best work with our neighbours, as we will be neighbours for the next 30 years.</p>
<p><b>Layout</b></p>	<p>How many turbines will be built?</p> <p>What colour will the turbines be?</p> <p>Which turbines will be built?</p> <p>Will the western turbines be viable?</p>	<p>The project defined Stage 1 (approximately 40 turbines) and Stage 2 (up to remaining 70 turbines). There will be agreements for landholders with annual payments for those landholders that meet the criteria</p> <p>The project has discussed specifications and the need to determine white/yellow for staging for approval.</p> <p>Decisions on which turbines will be built for Stage 1 is not yet known. The project is considering construction of civil works, access to turbines and wind yield to determine which turbines will be built.</p> <p>This project fits within the State Government renewables precinct, supporting energy needs in SEQ.</p> <p>Our approach is to get best performing turbines in Stage 1, noting that the State approval required us to nominate a potential Stage 1 and Stage 2 for their assessment.</p> <p>Part of the final assessment will include an assessment of wind access vs construction costs – design also aims to minimise electrical loss and access to wind resource.</p>
<p><b>Wind farm</b></p>	<p>Where are materials coming from? / Do turbines come from China?</p>	<p>Wambo will likely use German and Danish turbines, with some components made in China. The project is also looking into Darling Downs manufacturing where we can, and use of local employment.</p>

	After the 30-year life of turbines, will they be removed?	Yes, the current approval is for 30 years of operational life for the turbines in line with approval and landholder agreements. There is a requirement for Wambo to remove the turbines at the end of their design life.
<b>Farming</b>	<p>The farming community want to be treated with respect.</p> <p>Concern that if the wind farm goes ahead, that some landholders will move away. Vacant farms become targets for increased thieving.</p>	<p>The Project respects the local farmers as business people and knowledgeable experts on the local conditions. Wambo looks forward to working with the local landholders over the 30-year life of the project.</p> <p>The Project is not aware of any landholders moving away, and is keen to invest in Jandowae to attract others.</p>
<b>Health</b>	Have you met with and asked Coopers Gap neighbours about health/mental issues?	<p>The project has spoken to Coopers Gap and some neighbours. We understand the main concern is noise and the Coopers Gap project is doing more noise monitoring to meet State Code 23 requirements.</p> <p>Wambo is also undertaking noise monitoring to understand current levels of noise and we will continue to monitor noise during construction and operation.</p>
<b>Power line decommissioning / access</b>	Powerlink says it will shut down the 132kw line.	We understand that Powerlink is considering shutting down the line, as it is not currently used to supply electricity. The Wambo Project team is negotiating with Powerlink for access to the line.
<b>Roads</b>	Road condition and maintenance is an issue around Coopers Gap, how will you address the condition of local roads around Wambo?	The Wambo Project is focussed on maintaining safe roads around the project. We are negotiating an agreement with Council to deliver roads to a standard as required by the approval and to fix the roads at our cost.
<b>Timelines</b>	How many years will it take to build 100 turbines?	The current plan is to have all the project turbines constructed by the end of 2025. The timing will be determined by the number of turbines constructed in stage 1.
<b>Next steps</b>	<p>Community requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More engagement with the community.</li> <li>• More detail on the neighbourhood agreement.</li> <li>• Use a formula and updates for neighbourhood plans, work on transmission</li> </ul>	<p>The next community information session will be in February 2021. The Mayor has agreed to attend.</p> <p>We have established a community newsletter with the first edition released in January 2021.</p>

	<p>options, provide independent studies on the benefits of wind farms, and further explore management of spraying.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organise a new community forum, and invite the Mayor.</li><li>• Bring participating landholders in the same room as neighbours.</li></ul>	<p>We have established a wind farm email address and 1800 number (1 800 490 475) to enable the community to ask us questions and seek further information.</p>
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