

Submission on the amended Winterbourne Wind Project EIS proposal 4-11-2024

The amended Winterbourne Wind Project has made significant improvements to the proposed development in the following key areas :-

- The transport route has been changed so that Oxley Highway is not used and greater use has been made of internal project roads to minimise traffic on local road. The proposed transport route now uses Thunderbolts Way and only skirts the northern part of Walcha.
- The turbine layout has been amended by deleting some turbines to minimise the visual effects to near neighbours.
- The refined turbine layout has also reduced the biodiversity impacts.
- On site water sources have been found that can be used for construction and making concrete. This will minimise traffic on local roads and not impact on Walcha's town water supply.

These changes have addressed the major issues raised in submissions commenting on the EIS.

A generous community benefit fund has been agreed between Winterbourne Wind, Walcha Council and Uralla Council. This fund is one of the largest in Australia and will have ongoing benefits for the local communities for many years to come.

The large size of this wind project will make a significant contribution to the electricity supply in NSW as the unreliable coal generators are retired over the next few years.

The amended Winterbourne Wind Project can connect to the existing grid and not need to wait until EnergyCo provides new transmission lines for projects in the New England Renewable Energy Zone thus helping NSW secure its energy needs and achieving its emission reduction target.

This project should be approved as soon as possible.

Chris Waring
102 Koloona Av.
Mt Keira NSW 2500