



Consultation Summary

Wongalee Wind Farm

Queensland, Australia

Document Classification: Public

1 Consultation approach and methodology

Windlab is implementing a targeted consultation and engagement program to inform the development of the Wongalee Wind Farm. Windlab's approach is aligned with the IAP2 Quality Assurance Standard and CEC Best Practice Charter for Renewable Energy Projects, to which Windlab is a signatory.

The program is underpinned by a robust stakeholder identification and materiality assessment process which is then ground-truthed through consultation with Windlab's locally based employees and Community Engagement team, and via discrete qualitative regional stakeholder and community interviews.

From there, IAP2's leading-practice Public Participation Spectrum was applied to support the development of specific consultation and engagement objectives for each stakeholder group, reflecting the project's broad regional stakeholder base and varied interests across stakeholder groups. Implementation methods and tools to support engagement were then identified, with materials tailored to the priority interests identified by stakeholders during early engagement.

Windlab's values-based guiding development framework provides that community perspectives remain at the heart of project decision making. The overarching goal of the engagement program was to provide genuine opportunities for stakeholders to participate in the development process and meaningfully shape the project design and delivery approach. We did this by communicating and actively seeking feedback from stakeholders and community members on the project's design, management initiatives, options and alternatives. Close-loop communication was key throughout the consultation process, with feedback provided to stakeholders around how their input had informed project decisions and initiatives as well as future engagement and communication activities. This process is ongoing and will continue throughout the development phase.

Windlab has, and continues to work closely with the following stakeholders throughout the development phase of Wongalee Wind Farm:

- Traditional Owners
- Host landowner
- Neighbouring landowners
- Prairie and Hughenden communities
- Flinders Shire Council elected officials and executive staff
- Regional economic development organisations, including the Hughenden Chamber of Commerce, TEL and MITEZ
- Queensland Member for Traeger
- Federal Member for Kennedy
- State Government Ministry and Department representatives
- Federal Government Ministry and Department representatives.

All consultation activities were delivered using the preferred methods identified by stakeholders and community members, with consideration for access and availability constraints in the host region – for example, Internet accessibility, travel distances, seasonal accessibility of roads, regional events or activities, eg. mustering programs, school holidays, show season, etc.

Progressively reviewing engagement outcomes ensured a measured, methodical program that prioritised the interests of stakeholders, with the flexibility to adapt and align with evolving stakeholder interests and the development landscape.

2 Background

Windlab has had a significant presence in the Flinders Shire for more than ten years. Early consultation and engagement relating to Windlab's development plans within the Flinders Shire began in 2010 with the development, then construction, and now operation of Kennedy Energy Park near Hughenden. Kennedy Energy Park was the world's first grid-connected wind, solar and battery storage facility, and the first utility-scale wind energy project to be delivered in the Flinders Shire.

During the development of Kennedy Energy Park, Windlab worked closely with Traditional Owners, landowners, the Flinders Shire Council, regional industry and economic groups, and State and Federal Government, overcoming technical and grid-connection complexity to responsibly deliver an efficient, high performing renewable energy project that met stakeholder expectations. Through the development and delivery of Kennedy Energy Park Windlab invested more than \$20 million into the regional economy through supply and contracting opportunities as well as jobs for regional workers.

Over our decade-long presence in the Flinders Shire Windlab has built lasting trust and strong, productive local relationships with regional stakeholders and the local community. We have maintained our connections in the Flinders Shire through:

- Consistent on-ground engagement and employing permanent staff from the Hughenden community.
- Supporting regional development strategies and being active members of economic development groups, including the Hughenden Chamber of Commerce, Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Zone (MITEZ), and Townsville Enterprise (TEL).
- Investment in community events and initiatives that bolster liveability and support improved health, wellness, recreation, enterprise creation opportunities for regional communities.
- Prioritising the interests and opportunities that matter to local people.

In 2018, Windlab began consulting with Flinders Shire stakeholders on new development projects planned for the region. Windlab's proven track record, productive relationships with local stakeholders, and the maturity of engagement on our regional development pipeline provided a strong foundation for the detailed consultation process for Wongalee Wind Farm, which commenced at the end of 2022.

3 Summary of consultation activities

The table below provides a high-level summary of formal public consultation activities undertaken by Windlab for the Wongalee Wind Farm Project.

This summary excludes informal or ad hoc consultation and feedback that occurs daily as part of Windlab's delivery approach, noting Windlab's Development, Land and Community teams spend approximately 25% of their time on the ground in the Flinders Shire working directly with project stakeholders. The summary does not include early-stage development engagement with landholders and stakeholders which began about 12 months prior to the commencement of detailed public consultation.

Date	Consultation	Stakeholders	Purpose
November 2022	Community Information Session (Hughenden)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host landowners • Neighbouring landowners • Flinders Shire community • LGA officials • Local businesses 	Opportunity for community stakeholders to provide feedback and participate in the development process.
November 2022	Detailed briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premier • Deputy Premier • Resources Minister • Energy Minister • State Member for Traeger • Federal Member for Kennedy • Regional economic development and industry groups • LGA officials 	Provide information about Windlab's regional development pipeline, including Wongalee Wind Farm.
November 2022	Bi-monthly project update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host landowners • Neighbouring landowners • Flinders Shire community • LGA officials • Regional economic development and industry groups 	Ensure stakeholders remain updated throughout project development.
January 2023	Bi-monthly project update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host landowners • Neighbouring landowners • Flinders Shire community • LGA officials 	Ensure stakeholders remain updated throughout project development.
February 2023	Pre-referral meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) 	To brief the department of the project prior to the submission of a referral under the EPBC Act.
February 2023	Hughenden Chamber of Commerce meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flinders Shire Community • Flinders Shire local business community • Flinders Shire Council 	Update on approvals processes and project timelines, initial conversations around local business opportunities.

February 2023	MITEZ member presentation (Charters Towers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional economic development and industry groups • LGA officials and elected representatives in the region • Regional businesses 	Project outline and regional pipeline overview, summary of local supply and contracting opportunities and initial engagement with regional businesses.
March 2023	State Pre-lodgment meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning 	To obtain pre-lodgement advice prior to the submission of a development application for the Wongalee Wind Farm.
March 2023	Bi-monthly project update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host landowners • Neighbouring landowners • Flinders Shire community • LGA officials 	Ensure stakeholders remain updated throughout project development.
April 2023	Event Sponsorship (Hughenden Festival of Outback Skies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host landowners • Neighbouring landowners • Flinders Shire community • LGA officials • Local businesses 	Direct engagement with local stakeholders, landholders and community members.
May 2023	Community Information Session (Hughenden)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host landowners • Neighbouring landowners • Flinders Shire community • LGA officials • Local businesses 	Opportunity for community stakeholders to provide feedback and participate in the development process.
June 2023	Hughenden Show information booth and event sponsorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host landowners • Neighbouring landowners • Flinders Shire community • LGA officials • Local businesses 	Engage directly with a broad cross section of community members and stakeholders, host a project information booth and listening post, and deliver a community feedback survey.