



Stony Gap Wind Farm decision

Earlier this month, the Goyder Council chose not to approve our application for development plan consent for the Stony Gap wind farm.

We are very disappointed with this decision. Considerable effort goes into the design of our wind farms so that their impact on people and the environment is limited.

Some of the ways we have designed our Stony Gap project to minimise any impact include:

- Creating a small footprint. The wind farm will only occupy 20ha of a 5475ha site, all of which is private land.
- Limiting population impact. Low population density within the vicinity of the wind farm.
- No development within important native vegetation or animal habitat sites and no impact on the Heyson Walking Trail.
- Detailed plans to limit impact on roads during construction.
- Visual impact has been developed in accordance with the development plan guidelines.

Regional benefits of the Stony Gap project

Stony Gap could be an important development for SA and the region. As well as supplying clean energy to help us move away from fossil fuels, the development of Stony Gap will also generate impressive economic benefits:

- \$300 million investment of which \$15.5 million will flow to local shops, business and workers
- 123MW of clean energy, powering the equivalent of over 76,000 homes each year
- 84 full time jobs during construction at a time when employment rates are falling
- improvement to roads and infrastructure, and
- revenue for the Goyder Council.

We believe this project will benefit the local region and so are looking at ways we can progress our Stony Gap development. We'll continue to keep you informed of any updates about this project.

But what about wind farm noise?

Since we began operating the Waterloo wind farm, we have received four complaints from neighbours, two of which were about noise.

Although this would suggest that the impact of noise from our wind farm on nearby residents is low, community feedback has shown that noise is a wider concern.

Properly conducted and reviewed research by independent scientists has found no evidence to suggest that wind farms affect the physical health of people living nearby.

Research however, supports a connection between wind farm noise and anxiety.

So how do we minimise the chances of noise creating anxiety?

- We design and operate our wind farms in line with strict noise regulations. These are based on levels below the standards recommended by the World Health Organisation who have studied wind farm noise and the levels at which they can operate without disturbing the majority of the population.
- Recognising there are people that are sensitive to noise, we aim to help locals better understand how our wind farms operate. In some cases, having a better understanding of a noise's source can shape how people perceive it. Methods to share information about our operations include Information Days, our website and this newsletter.
- We provide people with opportunities to influence our activities and voice their concerns. We do this via our Community Liaison Group, resident meetings and public consultation on our development plans.
- We treat all complaints seriously. Where necessary we ask others to independently investigate noise complaints to ensure our wind farm is continuing to operate at acceptable noise levels.

We don't expect this will eliminate anxiety for all residents but we do believe we have helped minimise the potential for noise as a wider issue. We will continue to talk with neighbours and residents about other measures we can potentially adopt to further improve this situation.

Our name is changing

TRUenergy has announced that it will be changing its name to EnergyAustralia as of October this year. This follows our acquisition of the NSW-based EnergyAustralia retail business in 2011. Other than our name change, all other aspects of our business, including our plan to invest more in renewable energy, won't change. For further information, please visit us at truenergy.com.au/namechange



EnergyAustralia

Contact us

If you wish to contact us about our Stony Gap wind farm, wind farm noise or any other issue, please email us at talktous@truenergy.com.au.

If you have any specific interest in our wind farms, we'd encourage you to join our independently facilitated Community Liaison Group. This group meets regularly to receive updates on our wind farm developments. To join, please email the facilitator, georgina.house@arecongroup.com