



# LOCAL BUSINESSES, EMPLOYMENT TO BENEFIT FROM WINDFARM EXTENSION

Local Clare based business, OTM Civil Construction, will be front and centre of construction works at Waterloo wind farm, having won a major contract as part of the \$43 million project.

Six new turbines are being added to Waterloo wind farm to expand its clean energy generation capacity.

OTM Civil Construction will construct site preparation, roads, drainage and turbine foundations for the project, with work expected to start onsite in February.

The civil engineering business, which currently employs 13 people, is likely to hire additional workers and subcontractors to complete the contract.

OTM Directors, Scott Stedall and Shane Maunder said the contract win was a fantastic opportunity for the business to showcase their expertise whilst working on a significant renewable energy project in the Mid North.

"This contract shows real intent by the wind farm owners to hire local businesses to help with the project," Mr Stedall said.

"With projects like this under our belt, we should be able to continue to grow and expand and in turn, provide more long-term, local employment."

Another SA firm recruited to assist with the \$43m extension of the Waterloo Wind Farm is Consolidated Power Projects Australia Pty Ltd (CPP), an electrical engineering company that specialises in high voltage electrical infrastructure.

CPP will design and construct all non-turbine components for the project, including the 33kV cable reticulation system and any interfaces to the existing windfarm.

Waterloo Wind Farm General Manager, Steve Symons, said the project team would give preference to State-based and regional businesses with the skills to manage both large and small parts of the construction project.

"As well as OTM and CPP, we will be looking to utilise local fencing contractors, catering companies, seed collection specialists, quarry materials and transport," he said.

"Hiring local is economically prudent as it minimises travel and transport costs, reducing the project's environmental footprint and overall budget.

"Most importantly, it delivers investment, growth and opportunity to the community at a time when it is really needed," he said.

Adding six new turbines to the Waterloo wind farm will increase the renewable energy it can produce to over 130 megawatts, enough to power over 50,000 homes.



Turbines will be added just south of the existing facility, extending the wind farm by three kilometres.

New turbines will be connected to the existing transmission lines and operations facility, reducing the need for additional new infrastructure onsite.

Close management of all works during construction will ensure minimal impact to existing local landforms, flora and fauna, a key focus for the project team following community feedback.

For further information, visit [www.energyaustralia.com.au/waterloo2](http://www.energyaustralia.com.au/waterloo2)

## **Waterloo Wind Farm Stage 2 – BACKGROUND**

The location of the Waterloo Wind Farm is ideal for generating high volumes of energy from the natural wind resource.

Additional turbines at Waterloo were always envisaged as a part of the original development project. Now, after five years of solid performance from the wind farm, its owners have elected to build additional turbines to increase the amount of clean energy the wind farm can produce.

By adding to the existing wind farm – and using infrastructure already in place - we gain more clean energy with less impact on the local community and the environment.

Construction of the Waterloo wind farm extension will be managed on behalf of the wind farm by a specialist team with support from the existing EnergyAustralia asset management team.

Palisade and Northleaf Capital, Waterloo's joint-owners, will fund the \$43 million construction project. During construction, the existing wind farm will continue to be run by the staff onsite who will also be available to respond to queries from the community.