



Coopers Gap Wind Farm Project

Community Newsletter
3rd Quarter 2019



Construction Update

As of mid-August 2019, we are progressing the works in a controlled and methodical manner. We have a high focus on ensuring the final product is of a high quality that can stretch well beyond its required 25-year minimum life expectancy.

Our delivery of the large tower components from the Port of Brisbane to site has reached the 80% completed stage and are currently still on track to be completed by Christmas 2019.

On the turbine installation front, we have over 50 turbines in the air that are being installed by three large main cranes and a multitude of support cranes that make this turbine installation works possible. On the power generation side, we have 20 towers generating power into the grid and that will steadily increase as we progress into the 10 different collector groups. The maintenance and services building will commence construction in the coming months with final occupation of the facility expected early in 2020.

For further information about the project, please visit www.agl.com.au/coopersgap

Brian McEvoy
Project Director

Community Update

As visible progress is now moving at an accelerated pace, we welcomed landowners and stakeholders to get close up and personal with the windfarm during recent months. Dafyd Martindale from South Burnett Online shared his experience of the tour in a fantastic article which makes you feel as though you are there with him. Visit – <https://southburnett.com.au/news2/2019/06/28/inside-the-valley-of-the-giants/>

The annual Social Impact Management Report has been completed and issued to the Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning for approval. A draft copy of this report is available on the Coopers Gap website.

AGL has been proud to support a number of local regional events for the community. We were once again proud to partner with QMF to bring the unique cultural experience of Opera at Jimbour to the region. This event is important for the local community and showcasing the region.

Landowners hosting turbines on their properties were invited to a dinner at Pips N Cherries to discuss project progress and other aspects associated with the project. It was an enjoyable evening and it was good to

see all of the landowners together. Special thanks to Pips N Cherries at Bell for a beautifully prepared meal.



On 24 June 2019 the Coopers Gap Wind Farm began generating electricity into the National Electricity Market. The construction and commissioning process is continuing with almost 50 (49 as at 30 July) of the planned 123 wind turbines installed and 10 of them commissioned and generating power. AGL hosted the Energy Minister, Dr Anthony Lynham and some media outlets to see the turbines in action.



Progressing the mobile phone tower continues in earnest. There are current discussions with Telstra engineers to determine if there are any alternatives for location and technological equipment, to achieve appropriate coverage at a reduced cost.

A focus on safety at Coopers Gap

Coopers Gap Wind Farm (CGWF) recently conducted an emergency services drill with the Queensland Police and Bomb Squad.

“The exercise took months to plan between the local management team, our security and emergency management team, and the Queensland Police,” said Brian McEvoy, Project Director at Coopers Gap.

The exercise was to gain a better understanding of the unique set of circumstances and challenges a wind farm presents, so they can be better prepared if they need to respond to a real emergency.

“It was a great experience for the site team too, giving them an opportunity to deal with an unusual and potentially dangerous situation, challenging their safety thinking further.”

“AGL takes its critical infrastructure protection obligations very seriously,” said Nicholas Martin, Senior Manager, Property and Security.

“This is another great example of the multiple levels that we continuously refine and test to ensure that AGL’s operations are resilient and also meets our broader energy provision obligations to the Australian community, aligned with our strategic objective of social licence.”



What happened on the day?

CGWF Site Manager Michael Yeo kicked off the exercise by calling the Senior Constable from Kumbia Police with the following script:

“Site AGL staff have attended T16 (wind tower) due to a security alarm being activated and have confirmed that a subject has gained entry to the tower, now communicating through the floor hatch of the turbine, threatening to self-harm and threatening to detonate an explosive device.”

The phone call prompted a number of events which included role playing the scenario with police officers, Senior Sergeants, the forensic team, negotiators and the Bomb Squad.

“While we can’t share too many details about the exercise, it was followed by a debrief and the feedback from the participants was really good with a lot of appreciation being expressed for the opportunity to participate in an exercise like this,” said Brian.



Two CGWF construction team members ready to climb up the tower as part of the exercise.

Coopers Gap Community Fund

The fifth round of funding will be opened for applications on 2 September 2019.

Community Consultative Committee

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 11 September 2019, from 1:00pm-2.30pm at Cooranga North Community Hall.

Projected timeline



Contact:

Coopers Gap Wind Farm

Project contact
1800 039 600
aglcommunity@agl.com.au