

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community invited to learn about renewable energy project planned for North East

- \$2.7B renewable energy project planned for North East
- Attend a drop in session to learn about North East Wind, proposed for the Dorset municipality

4 July 2022, TAS – Community are invited to learn more about a major renewable energy project proposed for the North East region at a drop in session on Tuesday 12 July 2022.

North East Wind involves the proposed development of a large-scale wind farm located on agricultural land in the Dorset municipality across two clusters, Waterhouse in the west and Rushy Lagoon in the east.

With a construction investment of more than \$2B and generation capacity of up to 1,260 megawatts, the project would significantly contribute to meeting the Tasmanian Government's target to double the state's installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2040.

ACEN Australia acting Chief Executive Officer David Pollington commented that while the North East region has been identified as a 'high renewable resource area' by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), our work now is to start to work with community and stakeholders on how the project can be delivered in a way that offers shared value.

"We've been monitoring the wind characteristics of the Rushy Lagoon and Waterhouse sites since 2019 and the results are some of the best wind conditions for power generation in the country", he said.

The project is likely to be assessed in accordance with the State's new Major Projects process in accordance with the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993. Supporting studies, including environment, noise, visual, cultural heritage and social assessments will be undertaken to inform the design of the project.

"It is expected that the project will have an operational life of more than 25 years. We expect the development to take three to five years and full construction about five years", he said.

"We'll be calling for inputs from community and stakeholders including Aboriginal representative groups, training and education providers as well as social enterprises to help shape the project", he said.

"With such a significant construction investment, it is anticipated that there will be many opportunities for local Tasmanian businesses to be involved", he added.

"Once the project is operational, there will be long-term employment and service provision opportunities for the region and we have a commitment to employ and buy regionally where we can so we can keep the benefits local. For example, there will be likely opportunities for businesses to provide goods and services such as accommodation and catering, fencing, earthworks and landscaping, environmental monitoring, engineering, construction materials and equipment just to name a few". Learn more about North East Wind at www.newind.com.au

ENDS

Photo caption

From Rushy Lagoon looking north towards Musselroe Wind Farm.

Media enquiries

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About ACEN

ACEN is the listed energy platform of the Ayala Group. The company has ~3,800 MW of attributable capacity in the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, India, and Australia. The company's renewable share of capacity is at 87%, among the highest in the region.

ACEN's aspiration is to be the largest listed renewables platform in Southeast Asia, with a goal of reaching 5,000 MW of renewables capacity by 2025. In October 2021, ACEN announced its commitment to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

ACEN has been a partner of UPC Renewables in Australia since 2018. In 2021, ACEN began a transaction to eventually own 100% of UPC\AC Renewables by early 2023; with this transaction, the company is now called ACEN Australia. This marks a strategic pivot for ACEN as it embarks on its first wholly owned development and operations platform outside of the Philippines.

More information

ACEN - visit <u>www.acenrenewables.com</u> ACEN Australia – visit <u>www.upc-ac.com</u>

North East Wind

Renewable Energy from ACEN



Community drop in session

North East Wind involves the proposed development of a large-scale wind farm located on agricultural land in the Dorset municipality in North East Tasmania. The project will be developed across two clusters, Waterhouse in the west and Rushy Lagoon in the east.

Wind resource analysis in North East Tasmania has identified an excellent wind resource, suitable for development of a major wind farm. A number of supporting studies, including environment, noise, visual, cultural heritage and social assessments will be undertaken to inform the design and project approvals processes.

Learn more Come along to a drop in session

Gladstone Hall, Carr Street Tuesday 12 July 2022 2.00pm - 6.00pm















Project Introduction



At a glance

North East Wind will help Australia transition to net zero carbon emissions, delivering low-cost renewable energy and jobs for Tasmania.



ACEN Australia acknowledges the First Peoples of Tasmania, their elders past and present, who were and are the keepers of cultural and spiritual knowledge and traditions. We acknowledge the *pairrebeenner* clanspeople who lived in the North East area known as *tebrakuna* on which the proposed North East Wind project is located. ACEN Australia commits to undertaking meaningful engagement with Aboriginal organisations to support the protection of country and culture, and the development of their aspirations.

Why we need North East Wind

Tasmania is the nation's leading renewable energy state and the Government has set an ambitious yet exciting target to double the state's installed renewable generation capacity by 2040.

In December 2020, the Government released the Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan (TREAP) to support this target.

2. Vision and Priorities

The Tasmanian Government has identified renewable energy as a key economic driver for the future. The Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan (TREAP) will be key to the Government's vision of utilising renewable energy to benefit all Tasmanians through job creation, helping our environment and driving investment and economic growth. Our TREAP will deliver for Tasmanians in Tasmania is in a unique position as a leader in renewable energy given our history of development and our world class energy resources. In Tasmania, we have the potential to build a truly sustainable, prosperous, 21st century economy based on affordable reliable, clean energy that will create jobs and also play a major role in reducing carbon emissions aross Australia.

three key priority areas: **Transforming Tasmania** into a global renewable energy powerhouse



Growing the economy and providing jobs

North East Wind will contribute to the realisation of Tasmania's 200% renewable energy target and is aligned with the Government's renewable energy action plan vision and priorities.

> Source: https://renewablestasmania.tas.gov.au/__data/ assets/pdf_file/0008/275876/Tasmanian_Renewable_ Energy_Action_Plan_December_2020.pdf



About the project

North East Wind involves the proposed development of a large-scale wind farm located on agricultural land in the Dorset municipality in North East Tasmania. The project will be developed across two clusters, Waterhouse in the west and Rushy Lagoon in the east.

With a generation capacity in excess of up to 1,260 megawatts, North East Wind includes the construction of up to 210 wind turbines and transmission line to connect to the State and National electricity network, which will be detailed through the feasibility stage. Wind resource analysis in North East Tasmania has identified an excellent wind resource, suitable for development of a major wind farm. A number of supporting studies, including environment, noise, visual, cultural heritage and social assessments will be undertaken to inform the design and project approvals processes.



Renewable Energy Zones (REZs)

Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) were introduced by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) in 2018 as a way of identifying 'high renewable resource areas'.

Three REZs have been identified in Tasmania: the North West, North East and Midlands, based on their potential to deliver additional clean energy to the National Electricity Market and support the transition away from coal-fired generation. These locations also benefit from existing energy resources such as hydro and wind, and have established grid infrastructure close by.

For more information on REZs, visit renewablestasmania.tas.gov.au/renewable_energy_zones

Source: renewablestasmania.tas.gov.au/renewable_energy_zones



Wind power and turbine technology

Wind power is currently among the cheapest sources of large-scale renewable energy. It involves generating electricity from the naturally occurring power of the wind. Wind turbines capture wind energy within the area swept by their blades. The spinning blades drive an electrical generator that produces electricity for export to the grid.

Source: Clean Energy Council





As Tasmania embraces the opportunities a growing renewable energy industry brings, ACEN Australia understands the importance of sharing in the benefits that North East Wind can provide.



Jobs and business

We have a commitment to employ and buy locally where we can so we can keep the benefits local. Our approach to maximising opportunities for local participation is centered on four key areas:



Prioritise the procurement of local businesses for goods and services

Encourage and facilitate future local business capability

Prioritise local employment



Encourage and facilitate future local employment through training and skills pathways With such a significant construction investment, it is anticipated that there will be many opportunities for local Tasmanian businesses to be involved. Goods and services likely to be procured locally include:

- Accommodation and catering
- Engineering
- Construction materials and equipment
- Local labour
- Earthworks services
- Fencing and landscaping
- Environmental monitoring

Due to the size of the project and the specialised skill set required, it is likely however that skilled workers from outside the region will also be required during the construction period.

Community benefit funding

We understand that community expectation for benefit sharing has shifted, and rightly so. We also believe that benefit sharing goes beyond making cash-based contributions, and towards legacy investments delivered in partnership with communities.

Our approach to benefit sharing for the project will be informed by local needs, priorities and aspirations, and we will be seeking input from community, stakeholders and government on what this looks like as the project progresses.

ACEN Australia is committed to contributing to the North East region and is invested in its future vitality.



Technical, environmental, cultural, social and economic assessments to inform approvals and permitting Construction of wind farm and associated infrastructure Wind farm operational and generating renewable energy

About ACEN Australia

A partner of UPC Renewables since 2018, ACEN (formerly AC Energy) increased its ownership in UPC\AC Renewables in 2021 to be 100% by early 2023. This acquisition marks a strategic pivot for ACEN, as the company embarks on its first wholly owned development and operations platform outside of the Philippines.

While the UPC\AC Renewables name and brand is changing, its highly capable Australian team remains the same. ACEN's strong Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) performance underpins its interactions with its employees and partners, the communities we are part of and the environment that we all share. The Australian team will continue its work in contributing to Australia's transition to a clean energy future.

ACEN Australia

ACEN Australia is the platform representing ACEN's renewable energy assets in Australia. It includes several solar, wind, battery and pumped hydro projects across New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria and South Australia in development and construction. New England Solar, the first of these projects is expected to be in operation by the end of 2023.

With 40+ employees and growing, our people are located in Tasmania, New South Wales and Victoria.

ACEN

ACEN is the listed energy platform of the Ayala Group. The company has ~3,800 MW of capacity in the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, India, and Australia. The company's renewable share of capacity is at 87%, among the highest in the region. 2021 saw the integration of international assets into ACEN and its transformation from a Philippine focused energy provider into a significant regional renewable energy provider in the Asia Pacific, with international assets now comprising 60 percent of its portfolio.

Learn more at: www.acenrenewables.com

Ayala

Founded in 1834, Ayala Corporation is one of the largest companies in the Philippines with core interests in real estate, banking, water, telecommunications, and power. It also has emerging enterprises in infrastructure, healthcare and education. In addition, Ayala's corporate social responsibility programs are managed under the Ayala Foundation.

Learn more at: www.ayala.com

Creating value

The transition to ACEN Australia brings with it opportunity to create greater shared value. ACEN's aspiration to be a leading renewable energy provider is driven by its goal to create value that benefits society, its employees and shareholders. Sustainability is at the core of its business, and it is integrated into the way they do things.

Its Sustainability Framework is built on three focus areas embedded across its business operations, governance, and culture, and guided by its Environmental & Social (E&S) Policy.

- A low carbon portfolio by 2030
- Protecting the environment
- Community investments

North East Wind

Renewable Energy from ACEN

Engagement, contact and feedback

Understanding community views

We want to make an enduring and positive contribution in North East Tasmania.

To achieve this, we work closely with host landowners, neighbours, Traditional Owners and the wider community to help us gain a detailed understanding of the benefits and impacts associated with the project.

We want the project to be a valued and long-term part of the local community for decades to come.

Contact us



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www.newind.com.au

