



TARONG WEST WIND FARM

Ecological Assessment Overview

The Project site contains a range of environmental features that may be directly or indirectly impacted by the Project. An Ecological Assessment will be submitted to the Commonwealth and State Governments to determine any potential impact to matters of local, state, or national environmental significance. The Ecological Assessment will include:

- A desktop review of potential ecological values that are likely to occur at the site
- Confirmation of existing desktop information (i.e., mapping) for the site and assessment of vegetation condition through a site assessment
- Investigation into whether any Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) listed under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) are likely to be present and impacted by the proposed development
- Identification of any potential habitat features at the site with a particular focus on their likelihood to support threatened species listed under the EPBC Act and/or Queensland Nature Conservation Act 1992 (NC Act)
- Identification and verification of regulated vegetation as identified by the Queensland Vegetation Management Act 1999 (VM Act)
- Between October 2018 and February 2023, twelve seasonal surveys (flora and fauna) were undertaken to ground truth the desktop assessment of the site and determine the presence of flora and fauna of national and state environmental significance.

Key Flora and Fauna Species on Site

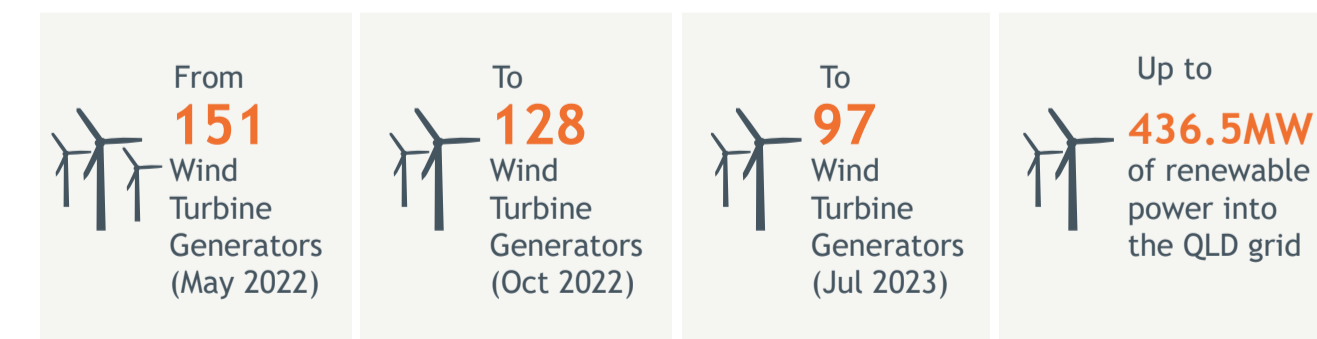
Key flora and fauna species confirmed within the Project area include:

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | Koala | | Glossy Black-cockatoo |
| | White-throated Needletail | | Rufous fantail |
| | Greater Glider | | Satin flycatcher |
| | Grey-headed Flying-fox | | Fork-tailed Swift |

Avoidance, Minimisation and Mitigation of Impacts

The Project has adopted a strong approach of avoidance of impacts, followed by minimisation and mitigation. Impacts to ecological values have been avoided and minimised by the siting of infrastructure away from sensitive values wherever possible.

Since the last community information sessions in April 2023, RES has made further refinements to optimise the Tarong West Wind Farm. This refinement will allow the project to achieve its energy production target, while minimising impacts to neighbours, the community and environment.



The current design will remove up to 24 ha of remnant vegetation. This clearing represents up to 1.4% of the total remnant and high value regrowth vegetation in the Project site. As the Project design progresses, all practicable efforts will be made to further avoid impacts to vegetation communities and fauna habitats, particularly through micro-siting.

After impacts have been avoided and minimised as far as practicable, remaining impacts will be mitigated with strategies including:

- Rehabilitating disturbed areas following completion of construction activities
- Increasing buffer distance between the turbine blades and remnant vegetation reduces the risk to forest dwelling birds and bat species. The current design locates most wind turbine generators (WTGs) outside remnant vegetation and avoids impact from other infrastructure as much as practicable.
- Maintain the rotor swept area height at no less than 60 m above ground height
- An adaptive bird and bat management plan will likely be required as a planning condition, to document bird and bat mortalities and re-assess the effectiveness and implementation of controls as required.

Mitigation measures will be supported by a suite of management plans through construction and operations including:

- Vegetation and Fauna Management Plan
- Bird and Bat Management Plan
- Construction Environmental Management Plan
- Offset Area Management Plan.

