

BONDO

WIND FARM

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

Neoen is investigating the potential to develop a wind farm in the softwood plantations near Bondo, approximately 20-kms east of Tumut. The Bondo plantations are suitable for a potential wind farm because they have: a strong wind resource, three existing transmission lines, and a large network of existing roads

Welcome to 2026!



Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2026!
We hope you were able to have a safe & refreshing break over the Christmas/New Year and School holiday period.
This year we aim to not only provide project information but also answer some commonly asked questions in our Q&A Section.

Visual Assessments - Update

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI) has provided clearer guidance on how visual impact is to be assessed around a working pine plantation. The cycle of trees being harvested and then re-grown changes the visual look of the landscape over time and NSW DPHI wanted to ensure that the methodology used to evaluate visual assessments is a consistent and true reflection. This has caused delays, but we can say now that we will be able to share photomontages shortly. Neighbours who have had assessments undertaken will be contacted in coming weeks about these. Photomontages of public viewpoints will also soon be available.



Project Managers on Site In February

Bondo Project Managers will be at the local project office in Tumut (Shop 45 Fitzroy St) from 16-18th February. If you would like to meet with them during this time please contact **1800 966106** or email contact@bondowindfarm.com.au to arrange a suitable time.





Q & A - Bush Fire Prevention & Management

Question:

Are wind turbines a fire risk and how will this be mitigated?

Answer:

All electrical infrastructure comes with a level of fire risk, but the risk from wind turbines is extremely low.

In the rare event that a wind turbine catches fire, the damage is contained to the turbine itself, which generally burns itself out. Local fire services will manage any spot fires from falling debris. Wind farms have requirements to manage fuel loads around the turbines, and offer benefits such as additional fire breaks, water reserves, fire trails and monitoring in otherwise remote areas of a region. Neoen ensures that our wind farms comply with all relevant requirements from the local and state fire authorities. Early detection and manned surveillance (with 24/7 monitoring) also help reduce fire risks from campfires and arson, improving security across the project area.

Question:

How would the ability to fight fires in the area using light aircraft and heavy water bombers be affected by turbines?

Answer:

In a fire emergency Neoen would stop all turbines and park the rotor blades to facilitate operation of fire fighting aircraft. This has been carried out successfully and is standard practice in other areas and jurisdictions. Aircraft would need to avoid wind turbines and follow relevant visual flight rules. There is significant space between turbines which allows helicopters to fly between them. Pilots view turbines as no different from tall structures and hazards such as powerlines, transmission towers, mountains and valleys. The Bushfire Emergency Management Plan will be prepared closer to construction and is developed in consultation with fire authorities and compliant with the NSW planning requirements for wind farms.

Question:

How can wind turbines prevent a fire?

Answer:

The height of wind turbines coupled with lightning protection systems reduces the chance of lightning strikes on nearby trees and property which may otherwise start a fire.

Turbines are fitted with advanced smoke detection systems. When smoke is detected, an alarm shuts down the wind turbine and a signal is sent to our on-site technician who assesses the situation as per our approved response protocols. They will alert Forestry Corporation and the Rural Fire Service (RFS) in the event of a bushfire risk or emergency. Some turbines also have a fire suppression system which can activate an environmentally friendly gas suppressant to cool a fire and remove oxygen to extinguish flames.

Asset protection zones around the turbines and maintained roads act as additional fire breaks, helping slow down fires in an emergency.

On-site monitoring personnel are trained as first responders to a fire event as well as being additional eyes on the ground to detect and raise alarms during an emergency.

Wind turbines will be fitted with fire detection cameras - increasing visibility and early detection.

Water tanks are installed on site to guarantee reserves for fire fighting purposes only.

For more information please refer to (or request a copy of) the following documents:

Neoen Bushfire prevention pamphlet

AFAC (Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council) Wind Farms and Bushfire Operations Guideline

For more information, please contact:

Name Surname



contact@bondowindfarm.com.au



[1800.966.106](tel:1800.966.106)



[Visit Website](#)



[Neoen AU](#)

NEOEN