

BONDO WIND FARM

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

Neoen is investigating the potential to develop a wind farm in the softwood plantations near Bondo, approximately 15-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



Australian Government
Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

EPBC Act Public Portal

On 15 April, a referral for the project was submitted under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act. In New South Wales, this enables the project to be assessed through the NSW Government's planning process under a bilateral agreement between the Commonwealth and NSW. This step is an early and standard requirement for all wind farm projects in NSW and does not constitute an approval of the project.

The referral documentation is open for public comment until 30 April 2026. Please note that comments on the EPBC referral can only be considered if related directly to protected matters.

Go to the EPBC website to comment:
<https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/>

and search for Bondo Wind farm or use Project number 2026/10465

Under this bilateral arrangement, the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) authorises the NSW Government to undertake the environmental assessment of the project. This assessment will occur after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is submitted, which is currently expected in November 2026.

Please find below how to make an effective comment taken from the DCCEEW website - <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/public-comments>

"The minister can only use comments that relate directly to protected matters. Make your comment specific to the project you're commenting on.

To make your comment as helpful as possible, state:

- *why you believe the proposed action is or isn't a controlled action*
- *whether the proposed action has an impact on protected matters*
- *how the proposed action will have that impact*
- *which parts of the proposed action will have an impact on a particular protected matter*
- *the source of key information to support your views, if possible.*
- *If you think the referral information is misleading or incorrect, tell us why and give us the right information if you can."*

The primary opportunity for detailed assessment and community input will occur later in the process, when the EIS and Development Application (DA) are prepared and submitted to the NSW Department of Planning. These submissions are currently anticipated to be lodged around November 2026.

Note - if the links don't work please copy them into a new tab of your internet browser.

TRY A TRADE DAY & Employment Expo

Neoen had a stall at the Snowy Valleys Try-A-Trade Day & Careers Expo in March. Many of the high school students showed interest in the renewable energy sector. The stall showcased how renewable energy projects were developed, the types of job opportunities available, as well as talking through different career paths. Neoen water bottles were popular as well as the Futureville game which is a fun, interactive way to discover the different careers in renewable energy (neoenlearning.com).



Photo 1 courtesy of Tumut High School

Comings & Goings


Teresa Baker is stepping down from the Community Liaison role on the 22nd April
AND
Clemence Soret will be joining the team as Senior Project Manager at the end of April.




BONDO
WIND FARM


OFFICE CLOSED

We are not far away. Please call us and we will arrange a time to meet.

 **1800 966 106**

If we don't answer your call, please leave a message, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

 bondowindfarm.com.au

 contact@bondowindfarm.com.au

NEOEN

Project Office Closed Next Week

The Bondo Wind Farm project office at 45 Fitzroy Street, Tumut, will be closed 28/29th April. It will be open again on 5/6th May. Please call 1800 966 106 or email contact@bondowindfarm.com.au to make an appointment to meet with a team member. *Apologies for any inconvenience.*

Noise Monitoring

Noise monitors are being deployed around the project area to ascertain how the noise of the turbines may impact neighbouring properties. The monitors record the current noise levels so any potential change associated with the wind farm can be better understood.



Question:

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE END OF BONDO WIND FARM'S LIFE?

Wind farms typically operate for **25–30 years**. At the end of Bondo Wind Farms' life cycle, there are **three possible pathways**:

Lifetime Extension

If safe and viable, the life of the project may be extended.

Repowering

Existing turbines may be replaced with **modern, next-generation technology**.

Decommissioning

At the end of the project:

- Wind turbines and all above-ground infrastructure are removed as well as underground infrastructure to a depth specified by the Forestry Corporation of NSW.
- The site is rehabilitated
- Most materials are reclaimed or recycled

- ✓ Decommissioning is a **condition of State government approval**
- ✓ Required under **agreements with Forestry Corporation of NSW**

Question:

Are diesel generators needed to power the spinning of turbines when there is no wind?



WIND TURBINES DO NOT HAVE DIESEL GENERATORS

nor do they rely on diesel to spin their blades. Once installed, turbines are powered by the wind itself.

In rare and exceptional circumstances—such as a wider power grid outage—diesel generators may be temporarily used at a wind farm.

Even then, their role is strictly limited to backup functions like maintenance activities or blade de-icing.

Diesel is **NEVER** used to turn the blades or to generate electricity. The turbines remain exactly what they are designed to be: powered by wind, not fuel.