

# Darlington Wind Farm

**Global Power Generation Australia  
Pty Ltd (GPG Australia)**

**Community Update**  
**June 2024**

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# Darlington Wind Farm

## Project Overview

The proposed Darlington Wind Farm project boundary is located southwest of Darlington and northeast of Mortlake along the Hamilton Highway, within the Shire of Moyne.

The proposed Darlington Wind Farm covers primarily agricultural land, used for grazing sheep and cattle. The site was chosen due to its consistent and strong winds, and the access to the high-voltage transmission line bisecting it. Existing transmission lines will allow generated energy to be dispatched into the national network easily and efficiently.

The project will connect to the grid via a new onsite substation, adjacent to the existing 500kV Haunted Gully to Tarrone Transmission Line. The size of the onsite substation would be comparable to the existing 500kV Tarrone Terminal Station. This connection will not require the construction of new overhead transmission line infrastructure.

## About GPG Australia

Global Power Generation Australia (GPGA) is a developer, operator, and owner of renewable energy generation assets. GPGA is the local subsidiary of Global Power Generation (GPG), the international power generation arm of the Spain-based Naturgy Group.

## About the Project

|                                          |                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Location</b>                          | 3.2km south-west of Darlington and 6.3km north-east of Mortlake <sup>1</sup>                      |
| <b>Ownership of the wind farm assets</b> | Global Power Generation Australia                                                                 |
| <b>Size</b>                              | Up to 45 Wind Turbines                                                                            |
| <b>Capacity</b>                          | Up to 325MW                                                                                       |
| <b>Blade tip height</b>                  | Up to 240 metres                                                                                  |
| <b>Grid Connection</b>                   | A new onsite substation connecting to the existing 500KV Haunted Gully-Tarrone transmission line. |
| <b>Project Status</b>                    | Environmental Effects Statement (EES) scoping and preparation stage.                              |

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<sup>1</sup> These distances are measured from the edge of the towns to the project boundary. Therefore, distance from the towns to the nearest turbines will be greater.

## Stay informed

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## What is an EES?

Under the Environment Effects Act 1978, a project's potential for environmental impacts or effects may require assessment by the Minister for Planning through the preparation of an EES.

The Minister for Planning's assessment of an EES does not constitute approval but instead informs statutory decision-makers when assessing whether the project should proceed, and under what conditions. The Department of Transport (DTP) manages the assessment of an EES on behalf of the Minister of Planning. As part of this process, DTP coordinates a Technical Reference Group, with representatives from various statutory agencies and authorities, along DTP. The TRG advises on the adequacy of technical EES studies and the technical adequacy of the proposed EES, ensuring the assessment process is rigorous and robust.

The EES process includes opportunities for the community to provide input and feedback, both via DTP's public exhibition processes and through GPG Australia's community engagement program.

## Project Status Update

Since our August 2022 newsletter, we note the following project updates:

- **September 2022** – Environmental Effects Statement (EES) referral submitted to Victorian State Government.
- **January 2023** – Minister for Planning determines an EES is required for the Darlington Wind Farm project.
- **February 2023 to November 2023** – GPG Australia worked with their technical consultant team, in consultation with DTP and the TRG to prepare an EES Study Program to respond to the Minister for Planning's reason for decision and inform DTP's EES Scoping Requirements.
- **July 2023** – Referral made to the federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Referral).
- **November 2023** – DTP convenes the TRG (comprising relevant statutory agencies and authorities), accepts EES Study Program and commences preparation of EES Draft Scoping Requirements for the project's EES.
- **December 2023** – DCCEEW makes a determination in relation to the EPBC referral. The proposal is a controlled action, and potential impacts will be assessed via the EES process through the federal and state government's bilateral agreement.
- **January 2024** – GPG Australia attended the first TRG Meeting at which we provided overview of the project and investigations undertaken to date.

Open Information Day  
You're Invited  
at Mortlake Recreation  
Reserve  
23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024

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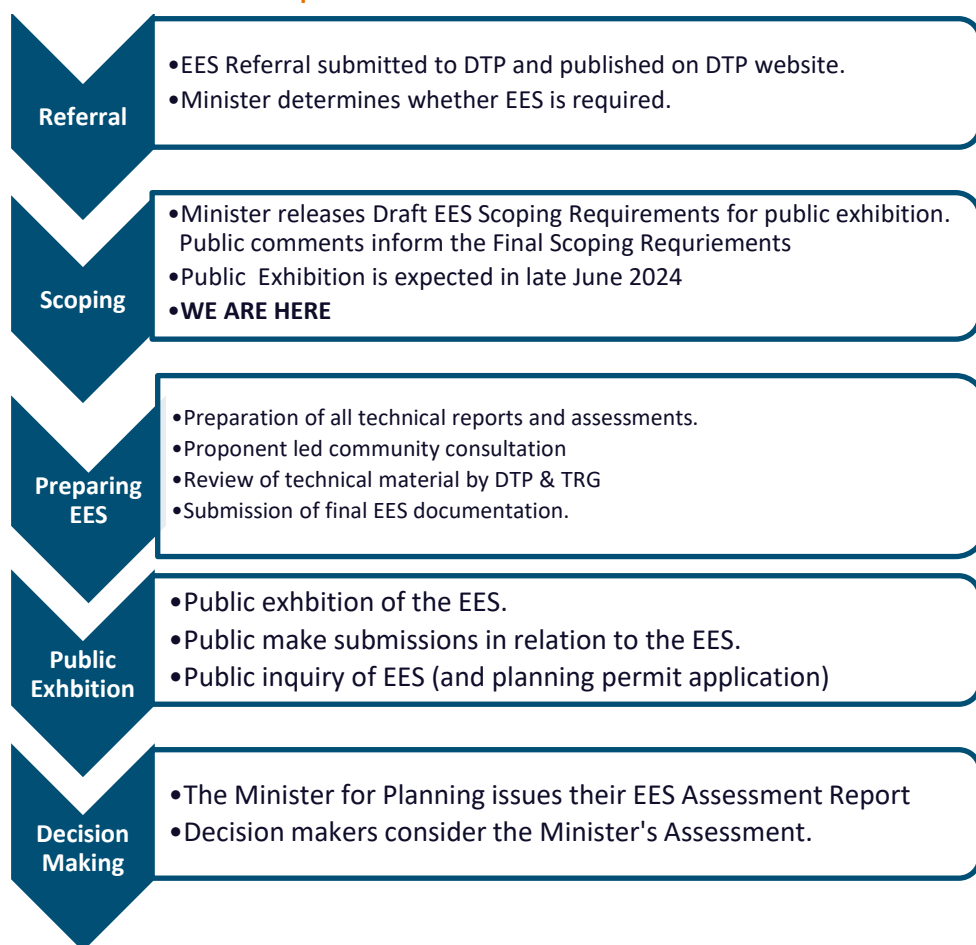
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## Next Steps

The next step will be the public exhibition of the draft EES scoping requirements by the Minister of Planning. DTP has been working with the TRG to prepare draft EES scoping requirements, which will provide further detail on the matters to be investigated through the EES assessment. During the public exhibition, the community and stakeholders will be invited to provide feedback on the draft scoping requirements. They are expected to be released for public exhibition in late June 2024 and will be made available online here:

<https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/environmental-assessments/browse-projects/darlington-wind-farm2>

## Overview of EES process



Formal consultation opportunities will be available during the Scoping and Public Exhibition phases, enabling the community to lodge submissions with DTP in relation to the draft scoping requirements and EES respectively.

In addition, GPG will run proponent-led community engagement activities during all EES phases, providing an opportunity for the community to access information, ask questions, provide input and share feedback.

**Open Information Day**  
**You're Invited**  
**at Mortlake Recreation**  
**Reserve**  
**23rd July 2024**

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## What is GPG Australia doing?

GPG Australia, with the help of technical experts, is preparing the EES to respond to the Minister's Decision and the upcoming Scoping Requirements. The preparation of the EES will be informed by a number of technical impact assessments including:

- Traffic Impact
- Geoheritage
- Air Quality
- Soils and Ground Conditions
- Electromagnetic Interference
- Water Environments
- Aviation
- Land Use and Planning
- Landscape and visual
- Shadow Flicker
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- Noise and Vibration
- Social and Economic Impact
- Biodiversity
- Brolga
- Cumulative Impacts

An EES consultation plan is also being prepared and will be made available through the project's website and DTP's Website. The plan includes the engagement activities that GPG Australia will carry out during the EES process.

## How can you get involved?

GPG Australia is committed to ongoing engagement with project stakeholders and building relationships with project communities throughout all stages of project development.

We will keep you updated on the approval process. In the coming months, there will be many opportunities to find out more information, provide feedback, and meet with the project team.

### Upcoming Drop-In session

GPG Australia is organizing an Open Information Day for the community on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 to share information about the project and EES process.

**Location:** Mortlake Recreation Reserve

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> July Tuesday

**Time:** 10:30 am to 1:00 pm  
3:30 pm to 6:00 pm

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## Get in Touch

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