



NEWSLETTER #1 - JULY 2025

Cellars Hill Wind Farm

PROJECT UPDATE

Project receives draft assessment criteria

The Tasmanian Minister for Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs, Hon Felix Ellis MP, has declared the Cellars Hill Wind Farm project a Major Project.

Now that it has been declared a Major Project, the proposal will be assessed by an independent expert panel. The panel has prepared draft assessment criteria for the project in consultation with the community and regulators.

<https://www.planning.tas.gov.au/assessments-and-hearings/current-assessments-and-hearings/cellars-hill-wind-farm-assessment-criteria>

Representations can be made to the Commission until 30 July 2025 by email to tpc@planning.tas.gov.au or post to Tasmanian Planning Commission, GPO Box 1691, Hobart 7001.

In addition, Cellars Hill Wind Farm has been determined as a 'controlled action' which will require assessment and approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) due to its potential to impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), notably flora and fauna impacts.

Interview on the *Tasmanian Country Hour*

Local landowner Peter Downie was interviewed on ABC Radio on 7 February 2025. He spoke about the project, the suitability of the site and his intent to ensure that the Highlands community benefits from this new infrastructure and industry.

Listen to the interview on the project website.



Approvals process



Site selection and preliminary investigations



Major Project Proposal submission



Major Project Proposal declaration



Referral to DCCEEW under the EPBC Act



Preparation of assessment criteria



Preparation of Major Project Impact Statement (MPIS)



Finalisation of Concept Plan



Submission of Major Project Impact Statement



Assessment of Major Project Impact Statement



Determination by Development Assessment Panel

Next steps

Technical assessments underway

A number of technical assessments will be required to inform the wind farm’s concept plan and Major Project Impact Statement (MPIS).

During preparation of the MPIS, the project team will prepare a more detailed Concept Layout plan, informed by technical results. Once the additional technical information is received, broader community consultation will be undertaken to discuss design details and receive feedback on the proposal.

The required technical assessments are subject to the assessment criteria. The assessments include traffic, noise, cultural heritage, flora and fauna, landscape and visual, shadow flicker, electromagnetic fields and communications, fire, surface water and groundwater, socio-economic, aviation, agricultural land use, air quality and emissions, and waste.

Gamuda to co-develop Cellars and other renewable energy projects

Alternate Path and the Downie family, as developers of Cellars Hill, have partnered with Gamuda, to co-develop and construct Weasel Solar Farm and Cellar Hill Wind Farm (if approved).

Gamuda is a global engineering, property and infrastructure company with an excellent track record of delivering world-class major projects. The company’s core business focuses on infrastructure design, engineering, construction, operation and maintenance across rail, roads, bridges, tunnelling, water management, transmission and renewable energy.

Gamuda is part of the Gamuda Group of Companies. Collectively this group has operated in Australia for over a decade, employing a team of over 2,300+ people across six Australian states and delivering over 50 projects nationally.

Gamuda is committed to continue the landowner-led principles of the portfolio which will be delivered in partnership with the Downie Family and Alternate Path.

Whilst Gamuda will bring important technical and engineering skills to the project team, from the outside, the project will continue as in a business-as-usual manner, including its strong commitment to engagement and community benefit sharing.

For more information, please visit <https://gamuda.com.au/2025/07/tasmanian-landowners-gamuda-combine-to-develop-clean-energy-portfolio/news/>

Cellars makes National Renewable Energy Priority List

The Australian Government has released the first-ever National Renewable Energy Priority List (Priority List).

The inaugural Priority List identifies 56 priority projects nationally consisting of 24 transmission, and 32 generation and storage projects.

If approved through Commonwealth, state and territory regulatory planning and environment processes, these projects could deliver an additional 16 GW of generation and approximately 6 GW of storage capacity across the nation.

Nationally, these generation projects can provide the annual electricity needs for over 9 million homes.

The Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water has collaborated with states and territories through the Energy and Climate Change Ministerial (ECMC) Council to create the Priority List.

For more information, please visit <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/energy/renewable/priority-list>

