



Community Newsletter | Edition 1 - April 2017

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## Welcome to the first newsletter of Granite Hills Wind Farm

Granite Hills Wind Farm Pty Ltd is developing a wind farm at Steeple Flat approximately 12 kilometers South East of Nimmitabel.

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### The Project

The proposed Granite Hills Wind Farm, currently being assessed by Planning NSW, comprises 30 to 35 wind turbines.

Several studies over years have shown the wind resource is suitable at this location to develop a wind farm which will assist Australia in meeting its 2020 Renewable Energy Target.

The total output capacity of the wind farm would stand between 100 and 120 MW, representing enough energy to power up to 80,000 households and save up to 325,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually.

### Who are we?

Granite Hills Wind Farm is the result of a partnership between the French company **Akuo Energy** and the Australian company **Willy Willy**.

Akuo Energy is France's leading independent renewable energy producer. With more than 600 MW in operation, Akuo covers the entire value chain, from development to financing, construction, and operation of its project, creating long-term additional benefits for the communities. Akuo has an office in Sydney.

Willy Willy is an Australian company owned by two businessmen, passionate about renewable energy.

### The Planning Process

Granite Hills Wind Farm follows the process for **State Significant Development**. Each stage of the process is detailed and can be found on Planning NSW website:

[www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au)

Following this process, a preliminary environmental impact assessment has been conducted by external experts.

Planning NSW recently provided the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements, comprising the necessary studies to be performed and associated guidelines.

These will include:

- Flora and fauna assessment
- Noise assessment
- Visual impact assessment
- Cultural heritage assessment
- Traffic impact assessment
- Aeronautical assessment
- Telecommunication Impact assessment

Once those studies are performed, the Environmental Impact Statement will be open to comments from anyone, prior to final assessment by Planning NSW.

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## Community

Granite Hills has been working with the Nimmitabel Advancement Group to determine how best it should invest to maximize the benefits our project can bring to the local community. This includes among others working with the public school and local businesses. An independent Community Consultation Committee will soon be nominated by Planning NSW for these purposes.

## Where can I get more information?

Akuo Energy has a history of building long-term relationship with local communities around its renewable energy projects. As we believe it is a two-way process, we would like to hear from you!

Updated information will be posted on our website: [www.granitehillswindfarm.com.au](http://www.granitehillswindfarm.com.au) which also provides a section to contact us online.

Granite Hills also invites you to its monthly open table, starting April 27th 2017. Representatives of Granite Hills will be available in the Federal Hotel Nimmitabel from 5:30 to answer your questions and hear any input or comments you may have.

You can also contact Antony Shingler at [antony.shingler@willywilly.com.au](mailto:antony.shingler@willywilly.com.au) or by phone on (02) 8999 1988.

Regular newsletters will be published to provide the community with updates on the project status.

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Location of the proposed project site

