

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What will be the life of Granite Hills Wind Farm and how much energy will it generate?

The wind farm will be in operation for about 25-30 years. On average it will generate enough clean energy to power about 50,000 Australian homes.

Will 500 acres of trees be cleared?

No, this number is greatly exaggerated. By using existing roads and cleared areas, the project team have made it a priority to avoid clearing where possible. Current estimates suggest project clearing will be far less than 100 acres.

How many jobs will be offered – short term and long term?

Wind farms create significant job opportunities during construction and for the life of the project. Using published numbers on comparable NSW wind farms as a basis, Granite Hills Wind Farm can expect to create approximately 142 jobs during construction and 13 during operations. As many of these jobs as possible will be sourced from the local community.

I'm a local contractor, how can I become involved during construction?

The project team would love to hear from you. Please send an email to granitehills@akuoenergy.com to let us know who you are, what you do and how you would like to be involved. We will track all inquiries received and reach out when the time is right.

Are possible impacts on people related to Granite Hills Wind Farm being considered?

Definitely. Granite Hills Wind Farm is required to undertake intensive studies using independent external specialists on everything from noise and visual impacts to water and the environment. There are strict specifications which the project will have to adhere to in order to be given approval to operate.

Will the wind turbines noise affect me?

Granite Hills Wind Farm is being designed according to noise standards from the NSW Department of Environment, which are some of the strictest in the world. They require the sound heard by neighbours to be less than the equivalent sound of rainfall - about the sound of a whisper. The maximum allowable noise level for project neighbours is 35db and we intend to keep all turbines at least 1km away from the nearest neighbour.

Could the wind farm affect livestock?

All around the world wind farms and animals co-exist in harmony, including in Australia.

Do wind farms affect property values?

There have been numerous studies into this which have found little to no impact on property value. You can check out a report by Urbis, a well-known and respected company in the property industry. The report can be found on our website on the project information tab.

Will the wind farm lower my cost of electricity?

Renewable energy is currently the lowest cost new form of energy and vastly cheaper than conventional sources. Having more wind energy in the market will reduce the state-wide cost of generation and should positively impact consumers' pockets.

Is there any intention to assist the community?

Most definitely. Granite Hills Wind Farm intends to spread the benefits of the wind farm with the nearby neighbours to the project as well as the wider community. The nature of these programs will be determined over the coming months based upon engagement with the community.

Will the wind farm affect bush firefighting?

Interestingly, access tracks constructed for wind farms are seen as beneficial to fighting bush fires, particularly in remote areas like Granite Hills. While the height of turbines does pose a risk to low flying aircraft, aerial firefighting is routinely done in close proximity to wind farms in Australia and around the world.

Where can I find out more information and how do I get in contact?

Visit our website for latest information about the project and to review the Community Plan which outlines how we will interact with the community. If you have any questions or would like to know more, please send an email to granitehills@akuoenergy.com or phone 1800 961 761.

How loud is too loud?

Government research suggests the safe exposure limit is 85 decibels for eight hours a day. Your hearing could be at risk of damage if you are continually exposed to high volume sounds.

Here are some common decibel levels:

