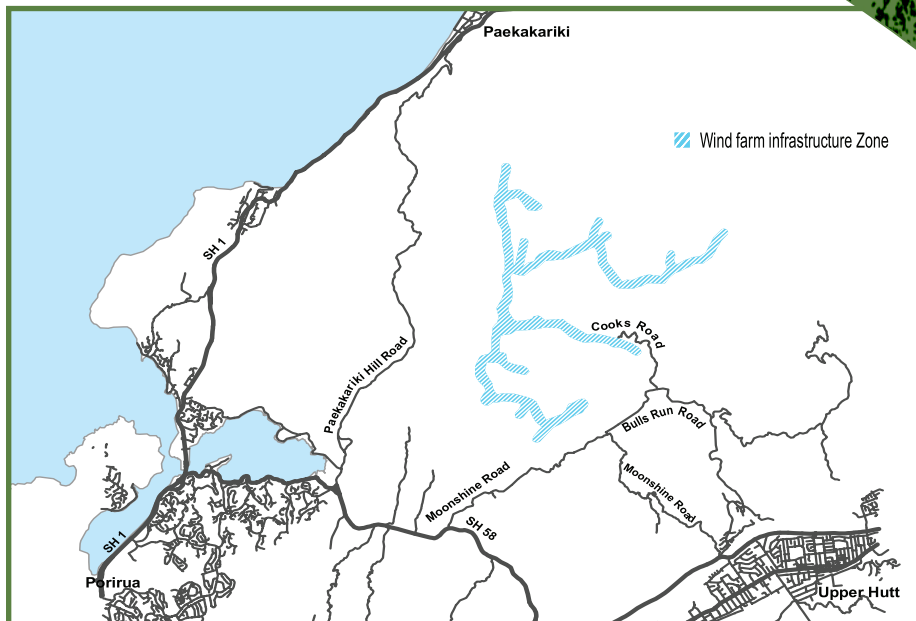


Welcome to the second Puketiro Windfarm newsletter. In it we update you on progress and let you know what RES has been doing to develop the proposal since our last issue. We also outline the next steps and how you can be involved.

The Puketiro project

Puketiro is the working name for a windfarm proposal of up to 150 megawatts. It is located on Greater Wellington Regional Council and some private land in and around the Akatarawa Forest at Pauatahanui. Generation of renewable electricity from a windfarm of this size would be enough to power around 65,000 homes. RES is studying the ridge line areas shown on the map for the location of up to 50 wind turbines of 2 to 3 megawatts each. We are currently making sure that the proposal is environmentally responsible and commercially prudent before firming up the project for further public consultation.

Before the windfarm can go ahead, RES needs to obtain resource consents and as part of that, to make public a full and accurate Assessment of Environmental Effects. Decisions about the project and the conditions it must meet will be made by the local authorities at Upper Hutt and Porirua Cities and by the Wellington Regional Council. All members of the public will get the opportunity to make their views known and have them taken into account.



Update

Over the past three months RES has embarked upon studies designed to give it the information it needs to build a world class windfarm at Puketiro.

Two 80 metre wind monitoring masts have been erected to measure wind speed and direction. The collection and analysis of that data continues and will help us work out the best locations for the turbines from a wind perspective.

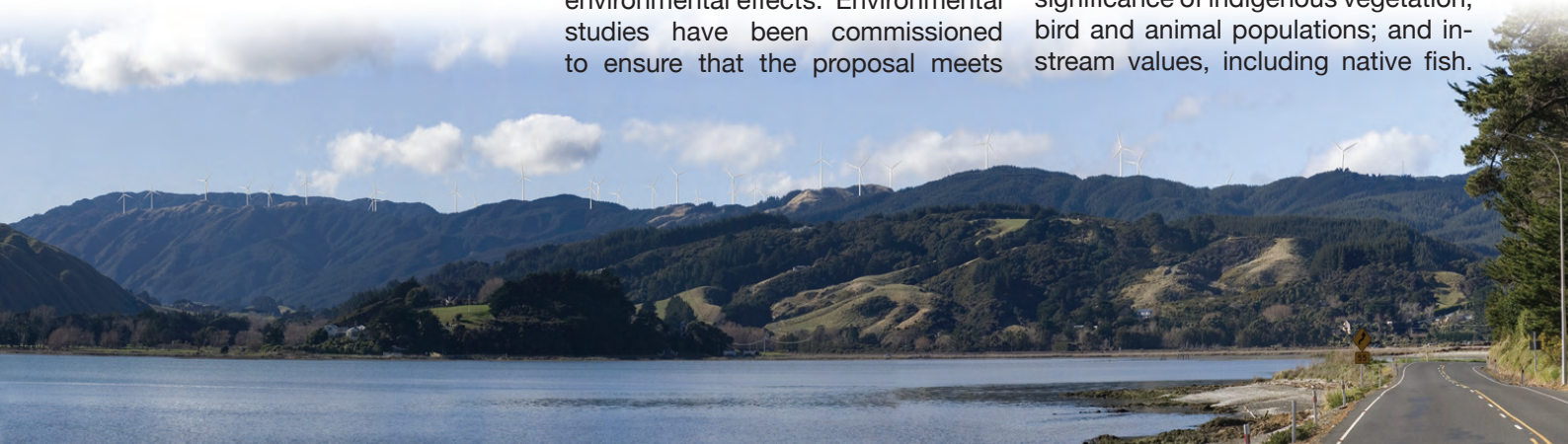
One complex issue for RES to determine is the engineering aspects, including the location and design of access roads, turbine locations, and grid connection. Significant progress has been made, but further work is underway to help firm up these details.

The project must also be designed to avoid, remedy and mitigate environmental effects. Environmental studies have been commissioned to ensure that the proposal meets

relevant guidelines and standards and that all opportunities to minimise adverse effects have been taken so that the impacts will be acceptable.

A noise monitoring program is underway to measure the existing noise environment around the site. That will allow us to predict what effect, if any, noise from the wind turbines will have at houses near the site. The data will be used to shape our proposal and assess its potential impact. When the analysis is completed, we will be able to let people know the extent of noise impacts as well as provide a full noise assessment report with the consent application.

RES has engaged nationally respected ecologists to assess the flora and fauna at the site. Field studies are underway to understand the types and significance of indigenous vegetation; bird and animal populations; and in-stream values, including native fish.





Puketiro Windfarm

We expect to be able to present more information on the field studies at the next Open Day in November.

The impact on landscapes and the visual environment is of widespread interest. RES is working to minimise the effects where it can and make sure that people understand clearly what the impact will be. Accurate photo simulations of the windfarm are being prepared from a number of representative view points around the site and in the wider region. At the Open Day, we will have a number of these photomontages on display. We will also have the ability to run a 'wireline' program which will let you see what parts of the windfarm proposal will be visible from your property.

Property values are important to everyone and the impact of windfarms has been raised as a potential issue. The impact has been assessed at a number of operating windfarms over several years and the results should be encouraging to neighbours of Puketiro windfarm. Our website will contain links to these studies and we will be happy to discuss the topic further at our Open Day.

RES is also conscious of the interest in the possible impact of 'shadow flicker' from the turbines. Shadow flicker can occur when turbine blades momentarily block the sun causing a flickering effect at locations very near a windfarm. It is not a common occurrence and the effect is not noticeable at locations distant from

the turbines. RES is assessing the extent of the effect on residences near to the windfarm. We expect to be able to show that the impact will be minor, if it is even noticed at all.

As well as the issues outlined above, further work will be done to assess the effects on traffic and roads; social and economic wellbeing; recreational use of the area; neighbouring land uses; archaeological values and communications and broadcasting.

RES is consulting with the local authorities and taking advice on what they require to be able to make a fully informed decision about the proposal.

Timing and next steps

Those following the project closely will have noticed that the timing of this newsletter and our second open day is slightly behind the schedule we set earlier in the year. That has been due mainly to the need for further work on the engineering aspects. Settling those issues and providing more certainty around the access routes and the location of turbines and infrastructure is a priority for us.

We want to have these matters settled this year and, following further consultation with the community, to finalise the proposal and apply for consents early in 2008.



Next Open Day

The second Open Day will be held at the **Anchor Church in Whitby on Saturday November 3**. Members of the project team will be available to discuss the project with you. Most of the information available at the Open Day will be posted on our website too.

Your feedback

RES is receiving regular feedback, particularly via our website www.res-nz.co.nz and email at info-newzealand@res-ltd.com We have received phone calls at the project line **04 894 7152** and found lots of opportunities to meet with individuals, local interest groups and other stakeholders. You can also write to us at **P O Box 50113, Porirua.**

All your feedback is welcomed. Comments are registered by RES and are being considered throughout the project design and refinement process.

Timetable

Saturday 3 November 2007, 10am-4pm

Second public open day at the **Anchor Church, 1 Joseph Banks Drive, Whitby** (just off SH58)

Early 2008

Resource Consent applications and assessment of environmental effects lodged.

