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PUBLIC OPEN DAY FOR PROPOSED ARARAT WIND FARM

On 11 July 2009 Renewable Energy Systems Australia Pty Ltd (RES Australia)¹ hosted its second Ararat Wind Farm Public Open Day for the local community to provide details about its proposed Ararat Wind Farm development located seven kilometres northeast of Ararat.

The Open Day was held on Saturday 11th July, 2009, between 8.00am and 4.00pm at the Ararat Performing Arts Centre, located in the former Town Hall building in Barkly Street Ararat (corner of Vincent Street).

Sedat Erol, Wind Farm Developer with RES Australia and responsible for organising the Open Day stated that:

“RES Australia’s Second Ararat Wind Farm Public Open Day was considered to be a huge success. During the Open Day RES Australia had five representatives present to meet the local community and interested parties. Although the weather was cold and wet on Saturday, we received a steady flow of visitors throughout the day who were keen to meet with our Project Team, ask questions, learn more about RES and to gain a further understanding of our proposal. Visitors were encouraged to provide feedback to ensure that this is a world class project from all points of view.

The Open Day was well attended by wind farm landowners, local and regional residents, current and former Mayors of Ararat Rural City Council, and parties with an interest in working with RES Australia during the future construction and operational phases of the wind farm.

The Open Day visitors were overwhelmingly positive towards the project. The majority of visitors to the Open Day had an appreciation of climate change issues and embraced renewable energy alternatives. They welcomed the proposed wind farm development and the economic investment into the region.

RES Australia will also continue to keep people informed, particularly those who were unable to make it to the Second Open Day, through our website: www.res-australia.com.au. Alternatively, people are welcome to contact us directly and we will be pleased to answer any questions about the project they might have.²

We would also like to extend our thanks to the Y’s Menette’s Club for the refreshments that were generously provided throughout the day.”

ENDS

Notes to Editor:

The proposed Ararat wind farm, comprising up to 75 x 2-3 megawatt turbines, will:

- generate clean, green electricity equivalent to the needs of approximately 83,000 – 124,000 homes a year;
- displace approximately 561,000 - 841,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per annum, the main greenhouse gas;
- unlock \$350 million investment within the Ararat Rural City Council and Northern Grampian Shire Council areas;



- provide jobs during the construction phase, using local people, businesses and expertise wherever possible; and
- contribute to Victoria's renewable energy target.

1. RES Australia is an independent wind farm operator in the local market. It is a subsidiary of the Renewable Energy Systems (RES) group of companies based in the UK. RES is one of the world's leading renewable energy developers with offices across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific. Part of the British Sir Robert McAlpine Group of engineering and construction companies, RES has been at the forefront of wind energy development since the 1970s and has completed more than 4,000MW of wind energy capacity worldwide. The Group has a large portfolio of projects under construction and in development, both onshore and offshore. Drawing on decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality. Our enviable track record in project delivery has given us a reputation for excellence that is second to none. For more information, visit www.res-group.com

2. For further information please contact: RES Australia Pty Ltd, PO Box 1274, Crow's Nest, NSW 1585. Phone: (02) 9431 7600. Email: info-australia@res-ltd.com

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