

# Mount Emerald Wind Farm Update



## Mount Emerald Wind Farm reaches key milestone – half of turbines now erected

Since toasting the erection of the first wind turbine at its Mount Emerald Wind Farm in November last year, RATCH-Australia Corporation is pleased to announce this month that over half of the project's 53 turbines have now been completed following the raising of the 27<sup>th</sup> turbine.

Only one foundation remains to be poured and completed at site WTG 33 while underground cable installation has progressed quickly in recent months, with cables installed to over half of the site.

Both the Mount Emerald Wind Farm and Powerlink substations are nearing completion, with energisation expected to occur in coming months.

Despite the prolonged wet season which saw close to 500mm of rainfall in March alone, Ratch Construction Director, Mr Rene Kuypers, said the project was still on track to switch on in September as planned.

"Ratch has operated in the region for many years so our construction schedule accommodated any wet season disruptions," Mr Kuypers said.

"There was little to no rainfall in April and we're now progressing full steam ahead," he said

### In Brief

- 52 of 53 foundations have been poured
- 29 of 53 wind turbines have been fully erected
- Another 10 wind turbines have been partially completed
- 93% of the clearance works have been completed
- 70% of the components have been delivered to site
- 64% of the underground electrical cabling has been placed

## Locals invited to apply for operational jobs ahead of wind farm completion

As the finish line for construction of the Mount Emerald Wind Farm comes into view, the wind farm contractor VESTAS is commencing the task of filling the various job opportunities in operations and maintenance.

Current positions available are;

### Warehouse Coordinator

Vestas is currently seeking an experienced **Electrical Technician** to work on wind turbine maintenance projects. The role is site based at **The Mt. Emerald Wind Farm, Walkamin** in QLD.

Reporting to the Site Supervisor, the Service Technician will play a pivotal role in maintaining, testing and repairing mechanical and electrical equipment and monitoring daily performance to ensure continued high availability to customers.

More info at:

[https://vestas.taleo.net/careersection/global\\_external/jobdetail.ftl?job=1700035A&lang=en](https://vestas.taleo.net/careersection/global_external/jobdetail.ftl?job=1700035A&lang=en)

### Service Technician

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## Community groups updated on progress

While construction staff keep busy on site, Ratch's Community Relations Manager and "woman on the ground" in the region, Kim Forde, has been busy keeping local community groups up to date on progress.

Kim recently held the 9th Community Consultative Committee Meeting in April and delivered site updates to;

- Mareeba's St Stephens Catholic School
- Herberton's Mt St Bernard School
- Kewarra Beach's Trinity Anglican School
- Mulgrave Landcare (pictured)

We're thankful for the great community support as exemplified by Atherton local Paul Gobert who has photographed every blade and part coming through town and shared them on Facebook.

Pre-construction activities. UXO study and geotechnical surveys.

FEB17

Construction activities include access road upgrades, and excavation of substation bench.

OCT17

Erection of first turbine.

JULY 18

All turbines are erected. We flick the switch, full commercial operations begin.

DEC16

EPC Contractor Vestas formally handed site.

MAY17

Wind turbines components will commence being delivered to site and erected.

NOV17

Substation is completed and wind farm is connected to the electricity grid network.

SEP18

## MEWF hits the road for wheelbarrow race

Paul McDonald, a valued member of the MEWF construction team, has done some hard yards of late.

In addition to helping keep construction on track on site, and playing Dad to newborn twins, Paul managed to squeeze in time on the weekend of May 18-20 to captain the wind farm team of runners in the world famous Great Wheelbarrow Race.

While the team couldn't quite match the more seasoned competitors and the new race record time, they did manage to complete the race at their first attempt and keep a smile on their faces.

More importantly the team contributed to the collection of over \$110,000 for chosen charities raised by the event.



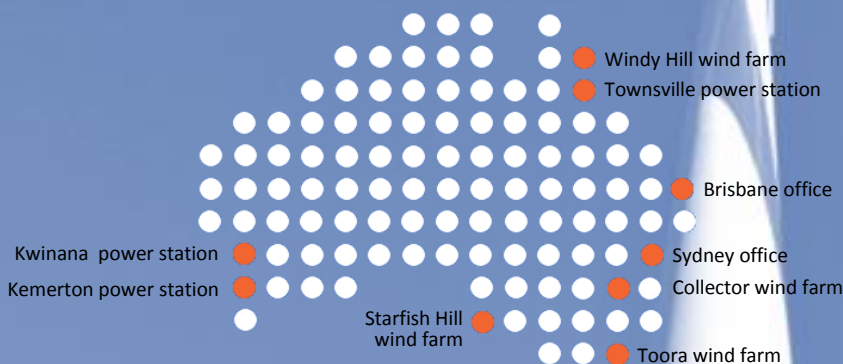
## Lily and Sparky receive national exposure

Trained by one of our conservation partners, Amanda Hancock from Saddler Springs, wildlife detection dogs Sparky and Lily have hit the big time.

The specially trained dogs, which locate and protect quolls from construction activities on site, have featured in The Australian as well as on ABC TV Landline over the past few months.

The dogs (and Amanda) deserve all the recognition they get for their fantastic and pioneering work which is destined to transform wildlife and environmental protection in Australia.

Ratch is answering Australia's call for cleaner energy.



For more information

Please visit [ratchaustralia.com.au](http://ratchaustralia.com.au), or [mtemeraldwindfarm.com.au](http://mtemeraldwindfarm.com.au)

or email

[info@mtemeraldwindfarm.com.au](mailto:info@mtemeraldwindfarm.com.au)

