

# Community Newsletter #4

Sunny Corner Wind Farm Community Update – 4 February 2025

We hope you've had a great start to 2025. As we continue engaging with the community around the proposed **Sunny Corner Wind Farm**, we're pleased to share the findings of a recent community survey on what matters most to locals.

## **About the Project**

For those catching up, here's a quick overview of the proposed Sunny Corner Wind Farm:

- The project is located within Sunny Corner State Forest, on the lands of the Wiradjuri people, between Bathurst and Lithgow in NSW.
- The region has a long history in energy production, and this project aims to continue that legacy by providing clean, reliable power while supporting local industries.
- Mainstream Renewable Power and Someva Renewables have been awarded a
  permit by Forestry Corporation of NSW to investigate a potential 500-megawatt
  (MW) wind farm.
- If approved, the wind farm could power approximately 300,000 homes annually for about 30 years.
- The project includes up to 80 wind turbine locations under investigation.
- As a State Significant Development (SSD), extensive technical studies and ongoing community consultation will shape the final project design.

# **Community Survey Insights**

Thank you to the 230 residents who shared their thoughts in the survey. Your feedback is helping shape the project in a way that reflects the community's values. Key takeaways include:

- Natural heritage is highly valued, with 89% of respondents appreciating the bushland, rivers, and native wildlife.
- Strong community and family connections (88%), recreational opportunities and lifestyle (77%), cultural heritage (72%), farming (72%), and job opportunities (56%) are also significant to residents.
- How locals use the forest: Walking (63%), four-wheel driving (36%), and camping (35%).
- Key community interests: Visual impact, bushfire management, access rights, and transmission lines. Other important themes include biodiversity, land values, noise, and waste management.

## **Community Input Shaping the Project**

Listening to the community is important to us. Sunny Corner is a unique and beautiful place, and we are committed to understanding how a wind farm could complement existing recreational and forestry activities while creating new local job opportunities.





Co-design is at the heart of this project. The feedback we've received is directly informing our planning, and we will continue to work closely with the community to ensure this project delivers positive outcomes. In addition to these themes, interactions with over 400 people and over 120 groups, have also highlighted that biodiversity, waste management, land values and noise are important to local residents and forest users.

## **Have Your Say: Community Benefits Survey**

Based on community feedback, we're now inviting locals to help shape the **Sunny Corner Wind Farm Community Benefits Program**. This initiative aims to ensure direct benefits flow back to the region, including:

- Annual Community Benefit Funds to support local projects
- Direct Neighbour Benefits for residents closest to the wind farm
- Partnerships with First Nations groups and local councils
- Local job creation and infrastructure investment

**We'd love to hear your ideas!** Take part in the Community Benefits Survey here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/SunnyCornerBenefits

### What's Next?

Next steps for the proposed Sunny Corner Wind Farm include the release of a Scoping Report, that will include an initial proposed turbine layout, followed by a series of Community Information Hubs planned for February in Sunny Corner, Yetholme and Portland. Locations and dates will be announced soon.

We look forward to continuing to learn from the community. By working together, we can shape a project that delivers long-term benefits for residents, the local economy, and the environment.

### **Stay Connected**

- Visit sunnycornerwindfarm.com.au for updates.
- Email us at community@someva.com.au with any questions.

We appreciate your engagement and look forward to working with you in 2025!

Kind regards, Felicity



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