

The logo for Aitken Partners, featuring the word "aitken" in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font with a double right-pointing chevron symbol above the "i", and the word "partners" in a smaller, lowercase sans-serif font directly below it.

aitken
partners



lawyers&advisors

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a wind farm at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with the sun low on the horizon. The silhouettes of several wind turbines are visible against the sky. A horizontal green bar is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

MACARTHUR-TARRONE GAS STATION/PIPELINE

Compulsory Acquisition
Information Sheet



Macarthur-Tarrone Gas Station/Pipeline

The Project

On 12 August 2010, AGL Energy Ltd (“AGL”) and Meridian Energy (“Meridian”) announced they had entered a building contract to construct a 420 MW Wind Farm in Macarthur, Victoria. It is anticipated that construction of the Macarthur Wind Farm will take approximately 30 months, with completion due in early 2013. The Macarthur Wind Farm is anticipated to be the largest Wind Farm in the southern hemisphere, and one of the largest Wind Farms in the world.

Purpose Of The Project

The project will purportedly facilitate power to more than 220,000 average Victorian homes and save 1.7 million tonnes of greenhouse gases per year from being emitted into the atmosphere.

The Site

Macarthur Wind Farm

We understand the subject site is located approximately 16 km east of the township of Macarthur, between Hamilton and Warnambool, 260 km west of Melbourne. The subject site covers approximately 5,500 hectares of freehold agricultural land, including three properties that are predominantly used for sheep and cattle grazing. We understand the construction and operation of the project will be managed by AGL, on behalf the owners. The location was purportedly chosen for its potential wind harvesting capacity and existing transmission infrastructure. Once complete, the Wind Farm will consist of 140 wind turbines.

Tarrone Gas Station/Pipeline

As we understand it, AGL will construct and operate the Tarrone Power Project on an area of approximately 15 hectares, 7 km west of Willatook, Victoria to facilitate electrical connection to the Macarthur Wind Farm, and also to supply electricity to Victoria during times of peak demand. At present, the Tarrone Gas Station / Pipeline site is used for grazing. We understand the site was selected due to being sufficiently set-back from residences and due to its proximity to high voltage power lines and gas pipelines.

Duration Of The Project

As we understand it, the Macarthur Wind Farm is expected to have a minimum lifespan of 25 years, after which time a decision will be made on whether the site will be upgraded or decommissioned. We understand that once decommissioned, a Wind Farm site can be restored to a similar state it was in before being built.

Projected Appearance Of The Wind Farm

As we understand it, AGL advises that the turbine towers will be approximately 84 metres high, the rotor blades approximately 56 metres in length with a span of 112 metres when affixed in a set of three, and the maximum blade tip height 140 metres. We understand AGL will assemble turbines from materials that minimise the visual impact upon the landscape, including colour finishes that are non-reflective and blend with the landscape.

Projected Effects

We understand AGL advises that there is generally little or no impact to farming activities on neighbouring properties, and that wind turbines do not have noticeable impacts on livestock.

What Do You Do If You Think You May Be Affected

For further information and advice, contact compulsory acquisition lawyers at Aitken Partners.



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