



Jim's Plain & Robbins Island Renewable Energy Parks

Project Update

August 2019

Welcome to the latest project update. Since the last update we have been working hard on a number of fronts to pull the project together taking onboard feedback from the community and a range of stakeholders. Some of these areas are as follows.

David Pollington, Chief Operations Officer - UPC Renewables

Eagle surveys

- The autumn Wedge-tailed Eagle and White-bellied Sea-eagle survey was undertaken in May and the winter survey will be occurring in mid August. The utilisation surveys are undertaken by experienced scientists using binoculars and telescopes to find and record eagles at set sites around Robbins Island and at Jim's Plain. For each observation, the date, species, age, flight path, flight direction and flight behaviour are collected, interpreted and documented.
- We have continued our investigations into bird detecting technologies; and most recently have been considering radar-cameras; as with the Identiflight technology being trialled at the Cattle Hill Wind Farm, this technology enables turbines to be temporarily shutdown to avoid collisions.

Bridge design

- The structure across Robbins Passage, to allow access to Robbins Island during construction and operations and to carry the electrical cables off the island, has been revised a number of times since the initial concept (a causeway and bridge) was developed last year. Taking into consideration additional hydrodynamic modelling, community feedback and some innovative design we have been able find a solution that is all bridge. The bridge will:
 - Be approximately 1.2 km long (the crossing is 1.4 km wide) and either side of the bridge concrete/rock ramps will connect the bridge to the land either side of Robbins Passage.
 - Have piles approximately 15 m apart and will allow the free flow of water through the Passage.
 - Be low in profile on the West Montagu side of the Passage and will rise up on the Robbins Island side to allow vessels up to 5 m in height to pass through the channel at high tide.
 - Be a single lane wide constructed from pre-cast concrete.
 - The bridge will not hinder recreational vehicles accessing Robbins Passage from Robbins Island Road - the concrete/rock ramp at the end of Robbins Island Road will be low in profile which will enable vehicles to drive east or west at low tide.
- The image below shows the bridge concept at high tide, which is connected to the land by concrete/rock ramps at either end.



Project approvals

- We have nearly finished preparing our Development Applications for each renewable energy park project. The Jim's Plain application has been lodged and we are currently preparing some additional information that has been requested by the Circular Head Council before it is put on public exhibition. We expect to lodge the Robbins Island Development Application in the next few months.

Photomontages

- Many of you have seen the photomontages that we've had on display at our community drop-in sessions; however, for those of you who haven't below is one taken from the top of Ben Hill Road at Montagu looking at Robbins Island. This photomontage shows the largest turbine that we're seeking approval for. In reality, we are likely to end up with a smaller turbine as this sized machine won't be available to meet our construction schedule.



- The photomontage below is taken from the Green Point Road, Marrawah looking towards Jim's Plain; it shows the largest turbine that we're seeking approval for.



Transmission line

- UPC Renewables Australia is currently working with TasNetworks on connecting the renewable energy parks to the Tasmanian network. TasNetworks has developed a NW Tasmania transmission strategy to support the long term development of renewable energy projects, as well as Project Marinus and Battery of the Nation. This will result in TasNetworks developing a line from Sheffield to Hampshire which will be paid for and utilised by UPC. If this line ends up being used for Project Marinus and passes the regulatory steps required to become part of the shared network, then it would be paid for by customers in accordance with the National Electricity Rules. The change to the transmission line route is a result of the release of TasNetworks' Annual Planning Report 2019.
- This leaves UPC to find a transmission line route from Robbins Island to Hampshire. Progressing the transmission line route will be subject to continual stakeholder engagement and obtaining the relevant approvals. We are committed to consulting with affected landowners, key stakeholders and the broader community to ensure that their views are considered in the design process for the transmission line. We have taken on feedback and we're currently realigning the route in various places; and we hope to have a revised route to share with the community in the near future. The majority of the Robbins Island to Hampshire transmission line route will cross forestry land and some sections will cross private land. We are trying to avoid crossing any public reserves.

Frequently asked questions

- There has been some misinformation recently published in the media about the projects which we have found disappointing. We encourage people to check the facts on our recently updated Frequently Asked Questions section of our website, please go to www.robbinsislandwindfarm.com/faq to take a look. If the information you are after is not there please send us a message or call us on the project line.

Upcoming community event

- We will be participating in the Circular Head 2019 Science Gig "Moon Madness". This is a free family-friendly fun event with displays, hands-on experiments, activities and competitions for everyone. We hope to see you there.

Details of the event are:

When: Monday, 12 August from 5.30 pm until 8.00 pm

Where: Circular Head Community & Recreation Centre
72 Nelson Street, Smithton, TAS 7330

Contact us...

Speak with one of our team by calling us on **03 6432 7999**

or email us at participate@ghd.com

