Working with community

Whaleback Ridge Renewable Project will harness strong Tasmanian winds to meet future energy needs, cut emissions and build a new industry with jobs and investment on the West Coast.

Community

We believe that Projects are better when shaped by the locals. At each stage we seek local knowledge and input to make sure the Project benefits locals communities. You can expect open, transparent and ongoing engagement from our team - our local team is always available to hear ideas and feedback.

Traditional custodians

We're committed to working in partnership with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. We aim to build a responsible project that respects Country, reflects cultural knowledge, and creates meaningful opportunities.

Community benefit sharing

We will establish a community benefit fund to share the Project's benefits with the local community.

The framework will be co-designed with the community to identify local priorities and how benefits should be delivered. A *community reference group* will help ensure the approach remains transparent, fair and responsive.

Designed with community

Partnerships

Lasting benefits

Opportunities

Local jobs & businesses

We have a commitment to employing and buying locally where we can so we can keep the benefits local. With such a significant construction and operational investment, it is anticipated that there will be many opportunities for regional businesses to be involved.

Workers accommodation

The peak construction workforce for stage 1 is expected to be 350. The same workforce numbers are expected for subsequent stages. To limit the use of short-stay and/tourist accommodation in the region, we are working with Council and government to develop options that has the potential to benefit the community.

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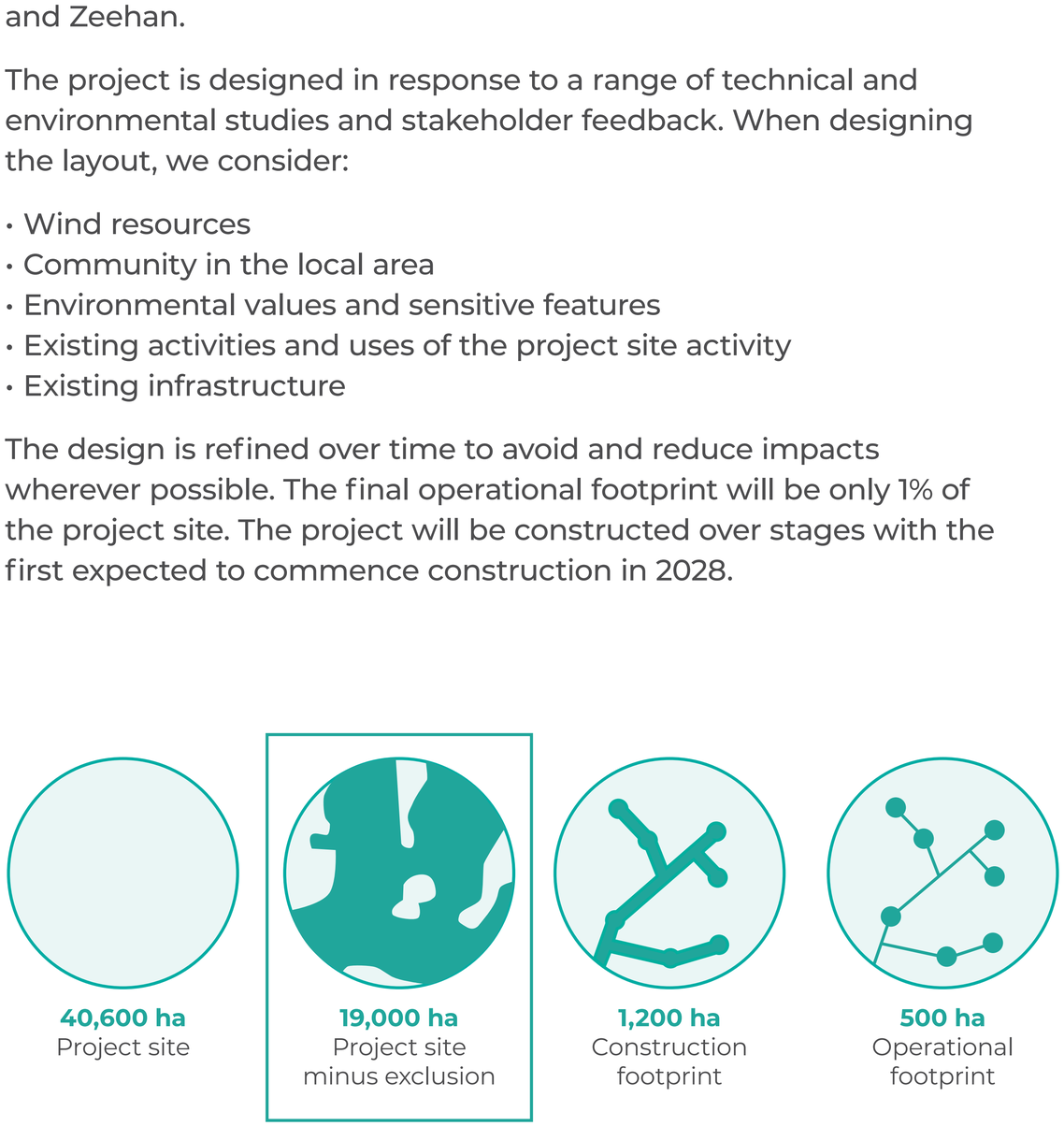
Project design

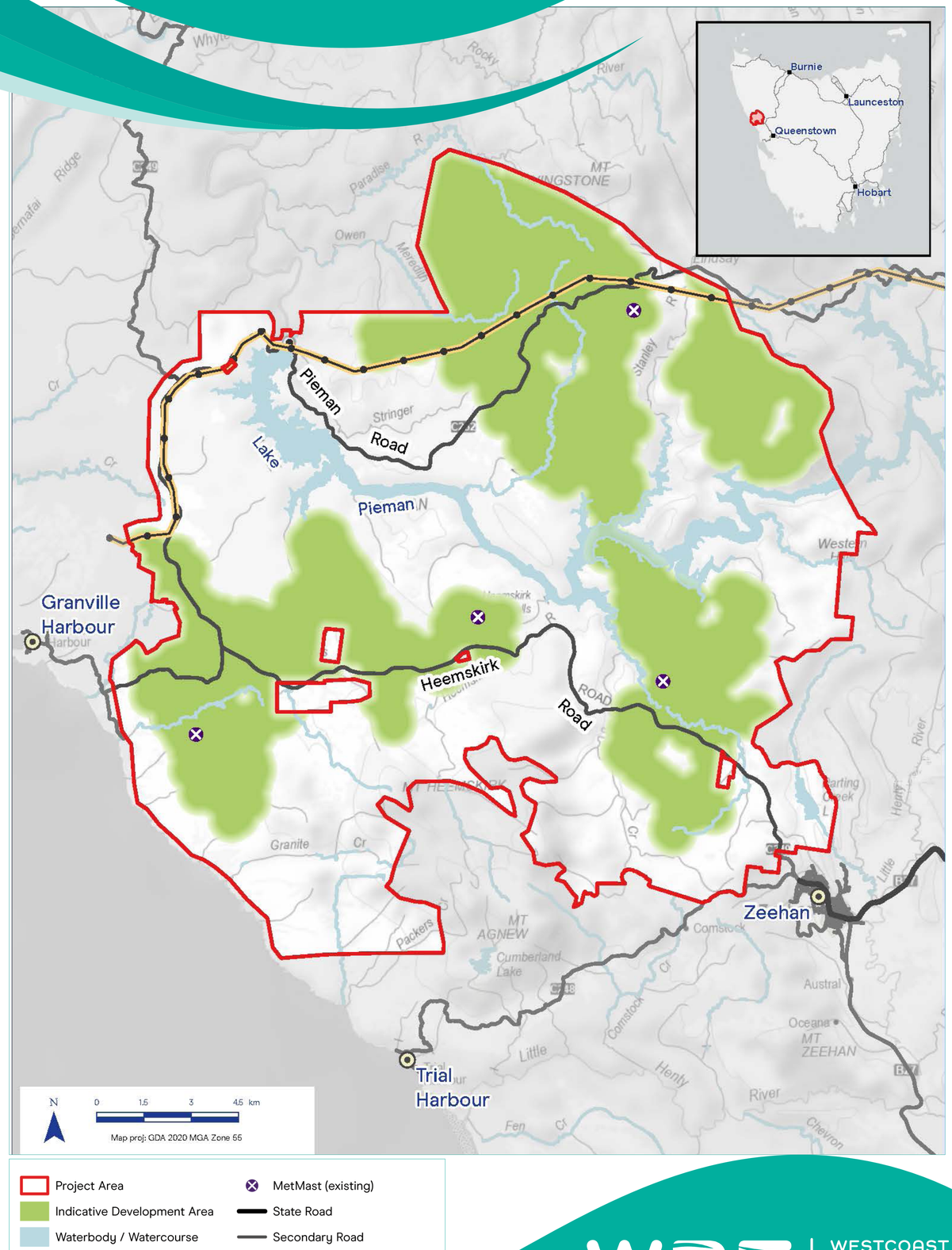
The project site is 40, 600 ha and is located between Granville Harbour Wind Farm and the Reece Hydro-electric Power Station and Zeehan.

The project is designed in response to a range of technical and environmental studies and stakeholder feedback. When designing the layout, we consider:

- Wind resources
- Community in the local area
- Environmental values and sensitive features
- Existing activities and uses of the project site activity
- Existing infrastructure

The design is refined over time to avoid and reduce impacts wherever possible. The final operational footprint will be only 1% of the project site. The project will be constructed over stages with the first expected to commence construction in 2028.





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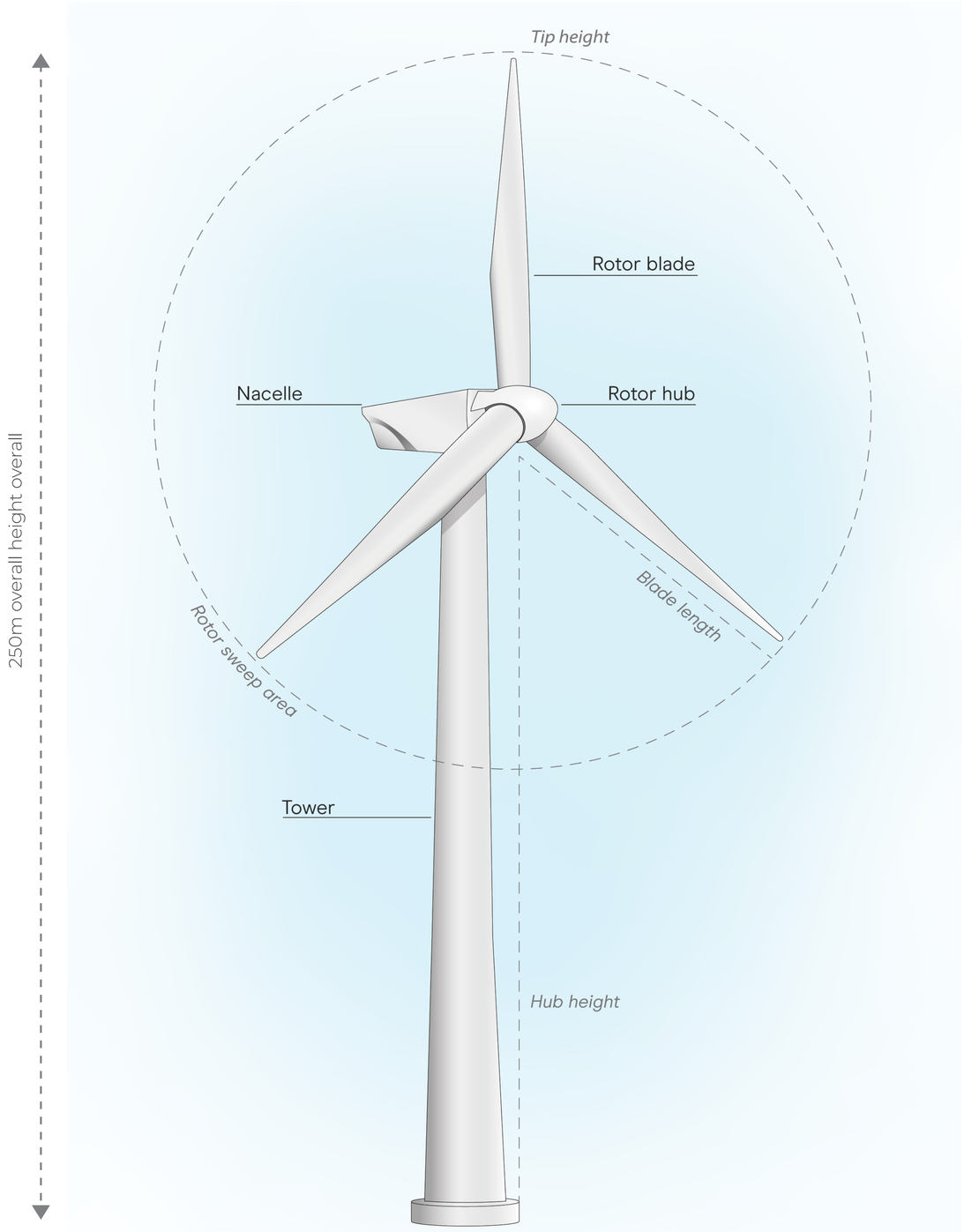
Wind turbines



The wind turbines harness strong Tasmanian winds to generate electricity.

Up to 280 turbines across entire project, stage 1 around 70 turbines

Operate in winds up to 90 km/hour

30 year lifespan or more

90% recyclable

Stage 1 can generate up to twice as much energy as the Reece Power Station

What's involved

The Project has the potential to generate up to 2.8 GW and will be built in stages. Stage 1 will provide up to 432 MW of new electricity generation and connect to the existing transmission network.

Subsequent stages will be built in the future as energy demand grows, new transmission will need to be developed to facilitate this.

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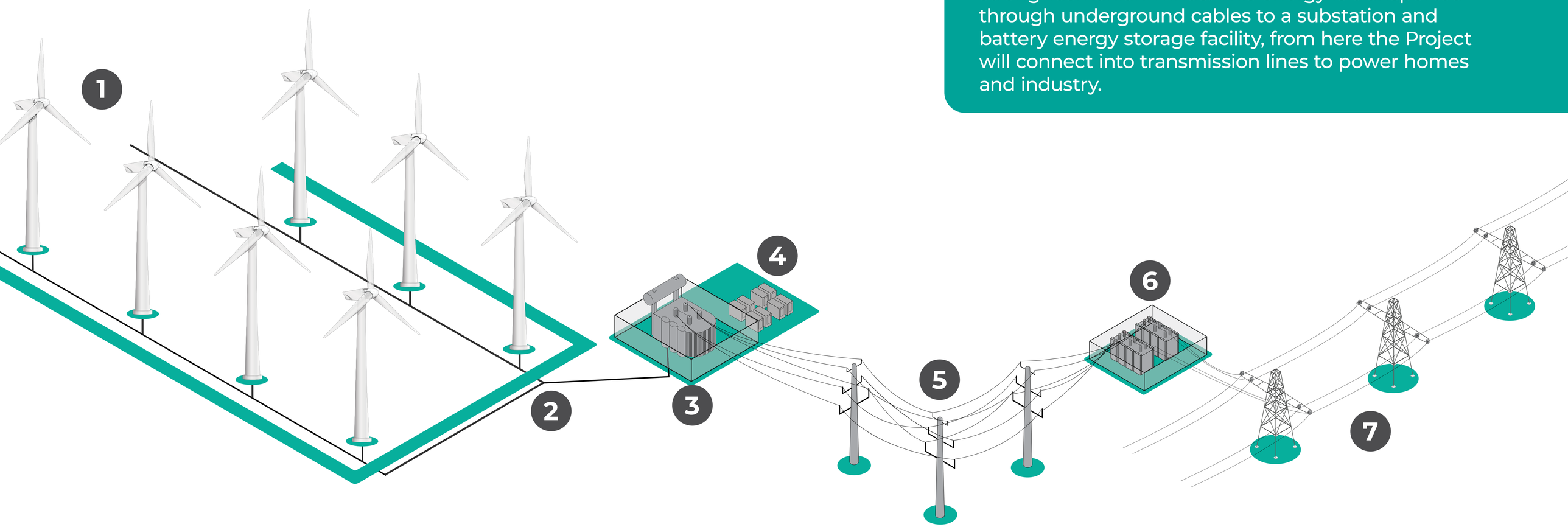
Wind farm infrastructure

Turbines installed will generate energy from the strong Tasmanian winds. This energy is transported through underground cables to a substation and battery energy storage facility, from here the Project will connect into transmission lines to power homes and industry.



1. Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs)
2. Underground cable
3. Connecting substation
4. Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
5. Over head power lines
6. Switch yard
7. Transmission lines

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Specialist studies

Specialist studies help build an understanding of the project area and inform how the project is designed. This information is used to guide decisions on where and how the project is developed, with the aim of avoiding sensitive areas and managing potential impacts.

Aboriginal & historic heritage

Understand the Aboriginal Cultural Landscape Values and heritage places and other historic features within the project area.

Air quality

Evaluation of dust and other air quality changes that may arise from project activities, particularly during construction.

Climate change & greenhouse gas emissions

Consideration of greenhouse gas emissions associated with the project, as well as how climate-related risks and severe weather may influence its development and operation.

Contaminated land

Investigation of any existing land contamination, including acid sulfate soils, and identification of management measures if required.

Ecology

Understand the native plants, animals and ecological communities within the Project area and develop the Project to avoid, reduce or manage impacts.

Land use compatibility

Undertake an assessment of the compatibility of renewable energy with mining and other uses of the land, and how the two sectors can co exist.

Groundwater

Examination of geological conditions, land-form stability and potential landslip risks that may be affected by the project.

Hydrology

Evaluation of how the project may influence surface water movement, drainage patterns and watercourses.

Landscape & visual

Assessment of how the project may alter views and the character of the surrounding landscape.

Noise & vibration

Investigation of noise and vibration generated during construction and operation, and their potential effects on nearby residences.

Social impact assessment

Consideration of the project's potential social and economic effects on local communities, businesses, visitors and other stakeholders.

Traffic & transport

Assessment of changes to traffic conditions, vehicle movements and transport networks associated with project activities.

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Project approvals

The project requires approvals from both the Tasmanian and Australian governments, with opportunities for the community and stakeholders to have their say throughout the process.

Commonwealth EPBC Approval

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment & Water (DCCEEW)
- Referral submission
- Assessment decision
- Guidelines for assessment developed for EIS

Public exhibition & submission (10 days)
Opportunity for the public to provide comments on the referral

We are here

Proponent
- Develops Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

DCCEEW
- Reviews EIS (may request more information

Proponent
- EIS public exhibition
- EIS updated based on comments & republished for public information only

Public exhibition & representation (min. 20 days)
Opportunity for the public to make representations on the project

DCCEEW
- Department undertakes assessment
- Ministerial decision
- Permit granted

Major Project approvals pathway

State Planning Office
- Major project submission

Landowners will be informed of the submission

Minister for Planning
- Major project declaration

Tasmanian Planning Commission
- Establishment of the development panel
- Draft assessment criteria
- Assessment criteria determined

Public exhibition & submission (14 days)
Opportunity for the public to provide comments on draft assessment criteria

Proponent
- Major Project Impact Statement

We are here

Tasmanian Planning Commission
- Assessment Panel & participating regulators review MPIS
- Assessment Panel prepares draft assessment report
- MPIS & draft assessment report exhibition
- Panel hold hearings
- Major Project assessment decision
- Permit granted

Public exhibition & representations (28 days)
Opportunity for the public to make a representation on the project

Public hearings
Open to those who have made representations

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Project overview

Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy Project will harness the world class wind resources of the West Coast of Tasmania.

- Up to 280 turbines
- Up to 2.8 GW of energy
- Stage 1: around 70 turbines and 432 MW energy.

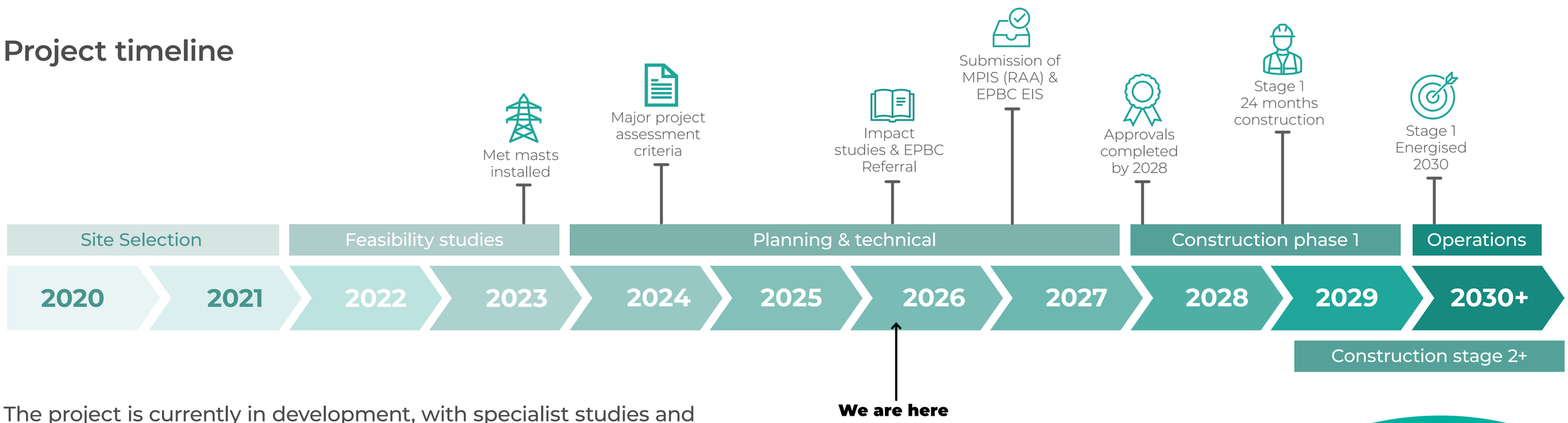
- Stage 1: existing Farrell–Reece line
- Stage 2+: new transmission required

- Supporting the West Coast economy
- Up to $3.48 billion investment across the project
- Up to $1.18 billion investment in Stage 1

- Up to 1,050 construction jobs across the entire project, with 90 operational jobs
- Stage 1: Up to 350 construction jobs and 30 operational jobs

- Major Project declaration in 2024
- Environmental assessment submitted in 2026
- Reserve Activity Assessment

Project timeline



The project is currently in development, with specialist studies and community engagement underway to inform the design and support environmental and planning approvals.

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