

Community update



Project newsletter
April 2026

Gawara Baya wind farm is continuing to move forward, with the project progressing towards financial close — a key milestone that brings construction into view.

For the local community, this project represents real, tangible benefits — more than 300 construction jobs, over \$200 million in regional economic activity, and a \$200,000 annual Community Benefit Fund across the Hinchinbrook Shire and Charters Towers regions to support local priorities.

In this update, we're sharing what's happening now and what you can expect as the project moves closer to construction.

Contractor onboarding

Planning for the construction phase of Gawara Baya continues to progress, with several contractors now engaged to deliver important early stage works packages.

Davbridge Constructions and Cooper McCullough Group have been awarded the off-site roads works package, including bridge construction and associated civil works. Australian Portable Camps (APC), together with Australian Camp Services (ACS), will supply, install, and operate the project's temporary construction accommodation camp.

We are now facilitating introductions between these delivery partners and the Gugu Badhun Aboriginal Corporation, councils, local businesses including Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander-owned businesses, and workforce providers. These conversations aim to support direct employment, local procurement, and subcontractor engagement.

Over the coming months, we will continue to work closely with our delivery partners to support meaningful local participation. This includes helping to ensure local businesses and First Nations enterprises are well positioned to take part in project opportunities as Gawara Baya progresses toward financial close.

Acknowledgement of Country

Gawara Baya is located on the Traditional Lands of the Gugu Badhun peoples. Windlab honour the Gugu Badhun People's sacred and enduring connection to Country, culture and community.

We respect the Gugu Badhun people's cultural values and intend for this project to have a positive legacy.



Indicative image of a temporary workforce accommodation camp with a similar layout and orientation to the proposed Gawara Baya camp.



Construction (4 years)

There will be around 300 jobs during peak construction, and workers will be housed in an accommodation camp.



Operations (30+ years)

Beyond construction, additional roles will support the operations and maintenance of the project.

Strengthening relationships with Gugu Badhun Traditional Owners

We recently met with representatives from the Gugu Badhun Aboriginal Corporation (GBAC) and project contractors in Townsville to strengthen our relationship ahead of the delivery of Gawara Baya.

The session brought together project leaders, contractors, and GBAC representatives to discuss the importance of working respectfully on Country and meeting commitments under the project's agreements, including the Indigenous Land Use Agreement and Cultural Heritage Management Agreement.

As part of this work, Windlab has also appointed Noel Gertz, founder of Australian Pacific Indigenous Personnel (APIP), to help unlock meaningful opportunities linked to Gawara Baya. Noel and his team will work alongside businesses and agencies to support workforce planning and development. Initially, opportunities will be connected to on-site project activity, with regional suppliers and contractors also playing an important role in First Nations economic outcomes.

Bringing GBAC and contractors together early helps build strong relationships and ensures respect for Country and cultural values, employment opportunities, and community commitments are embedded as the project moves closer to construction.



Facilitating conversations between contractors and GBAC



Local businesses hearing about opportunities to get involved at 2025 Meet the Buyer event

Connecting local businesses for the next construction phase

At the end of the month, we will host a Meet the Buyers Industry Roadshow in Charters Towers and Ingham, to bring together GBAC businesses, First Nations enterprises, local businesses, councils, community representatives, and contractors to discuss opportunities to work on Gawara Baya.

The roadshow builds on previous events, including the November 2025 Meet the Buyer sessions and the recent meeting with GBAC, helping ensure the community is connected to project opportunities from the start.

Key contractors will share information about upcoming work packages, workforce pathways, cultural expectations, and delivery requirements. This is a chance for local businesses and community members to connect, learn, and prepare to participate in Gawara Baya, ensuring the benefits of the project are shared locally.

If you're a business or job seeker looking for supplier and workforce opportunities, RSVP for one of our Meet the Buyer events below using the QR codes:

Register here for the **Charters Towers** event.



Tuesday 28th April

4pm – 6pm

Please RSVP for catering purposes and as a courtesy to our Charters Towers host venue.

Register here for the **Ingham** event.



Wednesday 29th April

4pm – 6pm

Please RSVP for catering purposes and as a courtesy to our Ingham host venue.



Keeping the Mount Fox community informed

As we prepare for the responsible delivery of Gawara Baya, our team is developing detailed plans to manage construction impacts, traffic movements, and environmental protection measures.

We value open and transparent communication with the community and understand the importance of staying informed and having your questions answered. As the project progresses, we'll continue to provide updates on what to expect during construction and how local community members can get involved.

We will be hosting a community information session in the coming months to talk about Gawara Baya, the work we're doing and answer any questions you have. We'll announce the date soon, so please stay tuned.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like more information, our team is here to help.

You can reach us via:

Project website: gawarabaya.com

Email: gawarabaya@windlab.com

Telephone: 1800 676 864

We look forward to continuing conversations and keeping you informed every step of the way.

Staff and contractor behaviour

As guests in the community, we expect our people to be safe, respectful, and considerate at all times.

This includes strict compliance with traffic management plans and road rules, being mindful of noise and working hours, respecting

the environment, private property, and local amenities, and engaging courteously with residents and businesses.

If you notice behaviour that is not in line with these expectations, please get in touch with our community team so we can address it.



Working together on the North's energy future

We recently took part in the **Secure the Future: Green Energy Forum** hosted by **Townsville Enterprise in Townsville**.

Our Chief Development Officer, Nathan Blundell, joined a panel alongside industry representatives to discuss how renewable energy is shaping the future of North Queensland.

Discussions highlighted the importance of new transmission infrastructure such as CopperString and the opportunities projects like Gawara Baya can

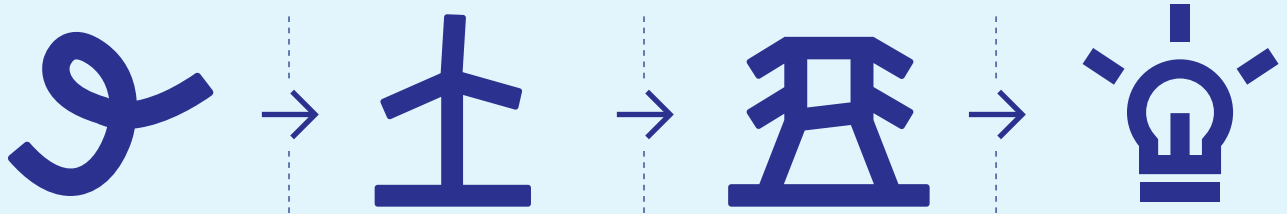
bring to regional jobs, investment, and long-term economic growth.

Mayors from across the region were also in attendance, including leaders from Hinchinbrook Shire Council, Charters Towers Regional Council, Townsville City Council and Flinders Shire Council — highlighting the strong regional interest in projects like Gawara Baya.

Events like this help ensure renewable energy projects are developed in partnership with local communities and regional leaders.

The energy journey

Ever wondered how wind turns into the electricity that powers homes, schools, and businesses? This infographic explains the journey from wind turbine to power grid, showing how energy is generated and delivered to the network that keeps the lights on.



Harnessing wind

Wind turns the blades of a turbine. Power created by movement is called kinetic energy.

The blades turn a shaft within the box at the top of the turbine.

Energy generation

The shaft spins a generator which converts kinetic energy from the moving blades into electrical energy.

A transformer at the base of the turbine mast converts the electricity into the right voltage for the local power network.

Transmission and distribution

High voltage transmission lines deliver power to distribution networks via substations.

Substations adjust electrical voltages so it can be safely transported via the distribution network (poles and wires).

Homes and businesses

The distribution network (poles and wires) delivers electrical energy to homes and businesses.

Let's keep talking

We're always available to answer any questions you may have, so feel free to reach out, or visit the website for more information including FAQs on a variety of topics.

Get in touch

gawarabaya@windlab.com

1800 676 864

Scan the QR code or visit gawarabaya.com to learn more about Gawara Baya.

