

# Project Update

thepines  
wind farm



9 December 2025

# Agenda

1. Update on key topics from last meeting
2. Scoping report contents & timing
3. Quarterly project update
4. Community meeting update
5. Neighbour deed update
6. Wind data
7. Minimising impact to Council services and assets
8. Highlighting misinformation
9. Answer questions received one week ahead of meeting
10. Additional Q&A



## Response to key topics in previous letter

Key topic identified at previous council meetings	Timing
Safety and public discourse	To be discussed today
Social and economic impact assessment	It is too soon for this to be completed
Roads, traffic, materials	To be discussed today
Housing and sewage infrastructure	To be discussed today
Community & tourism impacts	To be discussed at a later session
Transparency and Consultation	Ongoing (including this meeting)
Anzac Memorial Avenue	To be discussed at a later session
Bushfire risk	To be discussed at a later session
Decommissioning and bonds	To be discussed today



## Scoping Report Contents – Targeting June 2026

- ▶ Traffic & transport study
- ▶ Noise study
- ▶ Visual impact study
- ▶ Community engagement
- ▶ Aboriginal heritage
- ▶ Historic heritage
- ▶ Aviation
- ▶ Telecommunications
- ▶ Water resources
- ▶ Land resources
- ▶ Biodiversity
- ▶ Land use risk assessment



## Quarterly project update



**Community Drop-in Session  
Trunkey Creek**

Saturday, 18 October  
11am – 1pm  
Trunkey Creek  
Community Hall  
45 Arthur Street

The Pines Wind Farm team will be holding a community drop-in session in Trunkey Creek to present the wind farm proposal, answer questions and hear your feedback. Everyone is welcome to attend and speak directly with the project team.

- ▶ Completed 2 of the three wind masts. The final mast should be completed in December
- ▶ Completed 2 out of 8 bird and bat surveys. Early studies are showing very low bird and bat activity within the pine forest
- ▶ Private landholders:
  - Met with 21 interested host landholders to finalise a timeline with them
  - Working to release an updated map in first half of 2026 including these landholders
  - This would be before the scoping report is submitted
- ▶ Hosted 3 x wind farm tours for interested neighbours
- ▶ Briefed Bathurst Council, the presentation is on our website
- ▶ Hosted community Q&A in Trunkey Creek, notes have been published on our website
- ▶ Met with Oberon Men's Shed to present and answer questions about the project. Notes have been published on our website
- ▶ Commenced work on quarry, accommodation, waste, and water strategies,
- ▶ More than 3000 individual engagements so far



## Update to community activities

- ▶ \$5m Legacy Project:
  - Glen Stewart will be the Legacy Project Coordinator
  - Committee applications are now open on our website
- ▶ Successful community sponsorships awarded to:
  - Black Springs Community Association (Buddies Group)
  - Burruga Sport & Recreation Club
  - Friends of Oberon Library (FOOLs)
  - Oberon Golf Club Ltd
  - Oberon High School
  - Oberon Junior Rugby League
    - *“This funding has allowed us to reduce registration fees from \$130 to \$60, which makes a huge difference for local families – especially those with multiple kids in the club”*
  - Oberon Showground Land Managers
  - Rotary Club of Oberon.
- ▶ More than \$21,000 in electricity bill credits so far





- ▶ Hosted 9 x neighbour meetings in Black Springs, Burruga, Oberon, and Trunkey Creek
- ▶ Note: neighbour deeds are not required for the project to proceed
- ▶ Updates based on community negotiation:
  - Lock in a map showing host turbine land on the date of signature that can't be added to without landholder consent
  - Removal of constraints for new dwellings in the contract
  - Added insurance protections for guests, contractors, lessees.
  - Included a sunset date (8yr) when the contract ends if we do not proceed to construction
  - Note: We have heard in some discussions concerns around caveats. **The neighbour deed has never required a caveat on title.**

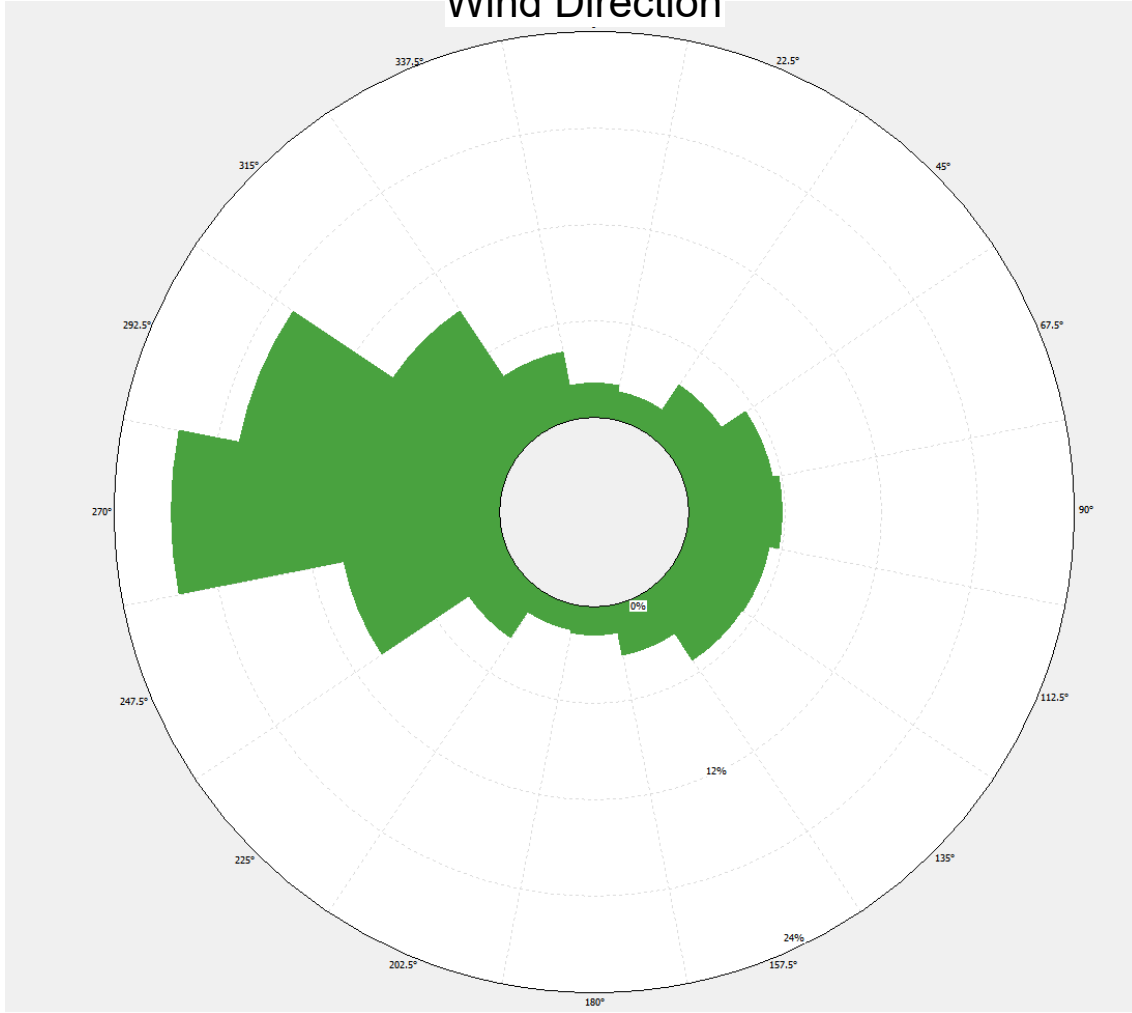
**Our approach to neighbour insurance is exactly in line with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, including:**

- Insurance protection for neighbours within 3.5km,
- Developer to pay for mitigation measures on neighbours' properties.

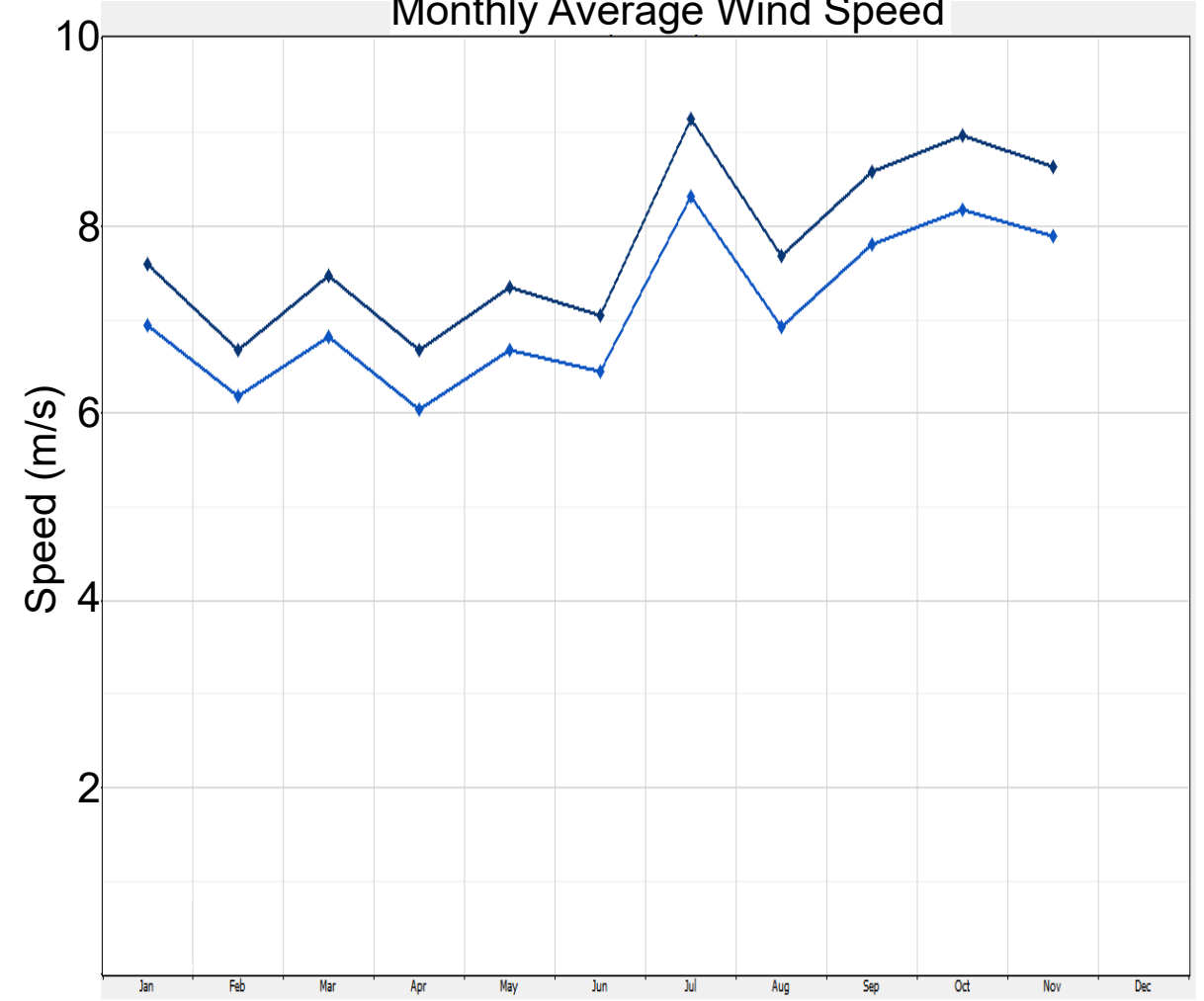


# Wind data snapshot: 2025

### Wind Direction



### Monthly Average Wind Speed





# Managing Impacts on Council Assets & Services

Council Asset	Proposed next step
Roads – Transport Route	Share as soon as we have a proposed route
Roads – Traffic	Consult with council on proposed times of day for transport, traffic numbers per day etc. prior to submitting the EIS
Roads – Damage to Council Roads	Commit to make good on any damage to Council roads by way of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Pre-construction survey of roads to be used by the project,</li><li>2. Regular surveys of road conditions during construction, with ongoing maintenance as required,</li><li>3. End of project surveys, and repairs to bring roads used for construction back to the standard they were in (or better),</li><li>4. We would like to explore a bank guarantee to cover the reasonable estimate to re-build damaged council roads used for heavy wind farm traffic (noting our obligation to repair these).</li></ol>
Gravel supply for Council	Council officers & The Pines Wind Farm team to discuss current council quarry use, volumes etc. so that we can put together a quarry plan that allows continued Council road and quarrying to continue
Council waste & recycling, sewage & town water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council officers &amp; The Pines Wind Farm team to discuss current waste, sewage, and town water facilities and capacities.</li><li>• Goal is to ensure project does not put pressure on these such that it will impact short-term or long-term use by the community, without rectification.</li><li>• Propose to meet before the next quarterly update</li></ul>
Water for construction	The Pines Wind Farm team to prepare a construction water strategy for discussion with Council.
Housing	We have attended Oberon Council’s future Draft Oberon Housing Strategy sessions last week and will be using the information gained to inform a housing strategy with a legacy for Oberon.



# Decommissioning – permit requirements

- IMAGE: Example permit condition for decommissioning and rehabilitation (from Ungula wind farm).
- We expect the permit condition to closely reflect this.

## DECOMMISSIONING AND REHABILITATION

### Rehabilitation Objectives - Decommissioning

B46. Within 18 months of the cessation of operations, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 3.

Table 3 | Rehabilitation Objectives

<i>Feature</i>	<i>Objective</i>
Development site (as a whole)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe, stable and non-polluting</li> <li>• Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</li> </ul>
Revegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EIS</li> </ul>
Above ground wind turbine infrastructure (excluding wind turbine pads)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise</li> </ul>
Wind turbine pads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be covered with soil and/or rock and revegetated</li> </ul>
Above ground ancillary infrastructure (including the battery storage facility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</li> </ul>
Internal access roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</li> </ul>
Underground cabling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise</li> </ul>
Land use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restore or maintain land capability to pre-existing use</li> </ul>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure public safety at all times</li> </ul>



**100% of the decommissioning cost, including providing financial security covering this cost, is borne by the project owner**

Forestry Corporation	Private Landholder
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proponents are responsible for the cost of decommissioning and rehabilitating their project areas</li><li>• Proponents will provide financial security for their projects to ensure they meet their decommissioning and rehabilitation obligations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The project has a contractual obligation to decommission and rehabilitate the project areas under the lease</li><li>• The project has a contractual obligation to provide financial security, escalating over time, so that the full value is in place well before the end of the project life. This is industry standard.</li></ul>



## ✘ Myth



## ✔ Fact





## ✘ Myth



## ✔ Fact





# Misinformation

## ✘ Myth

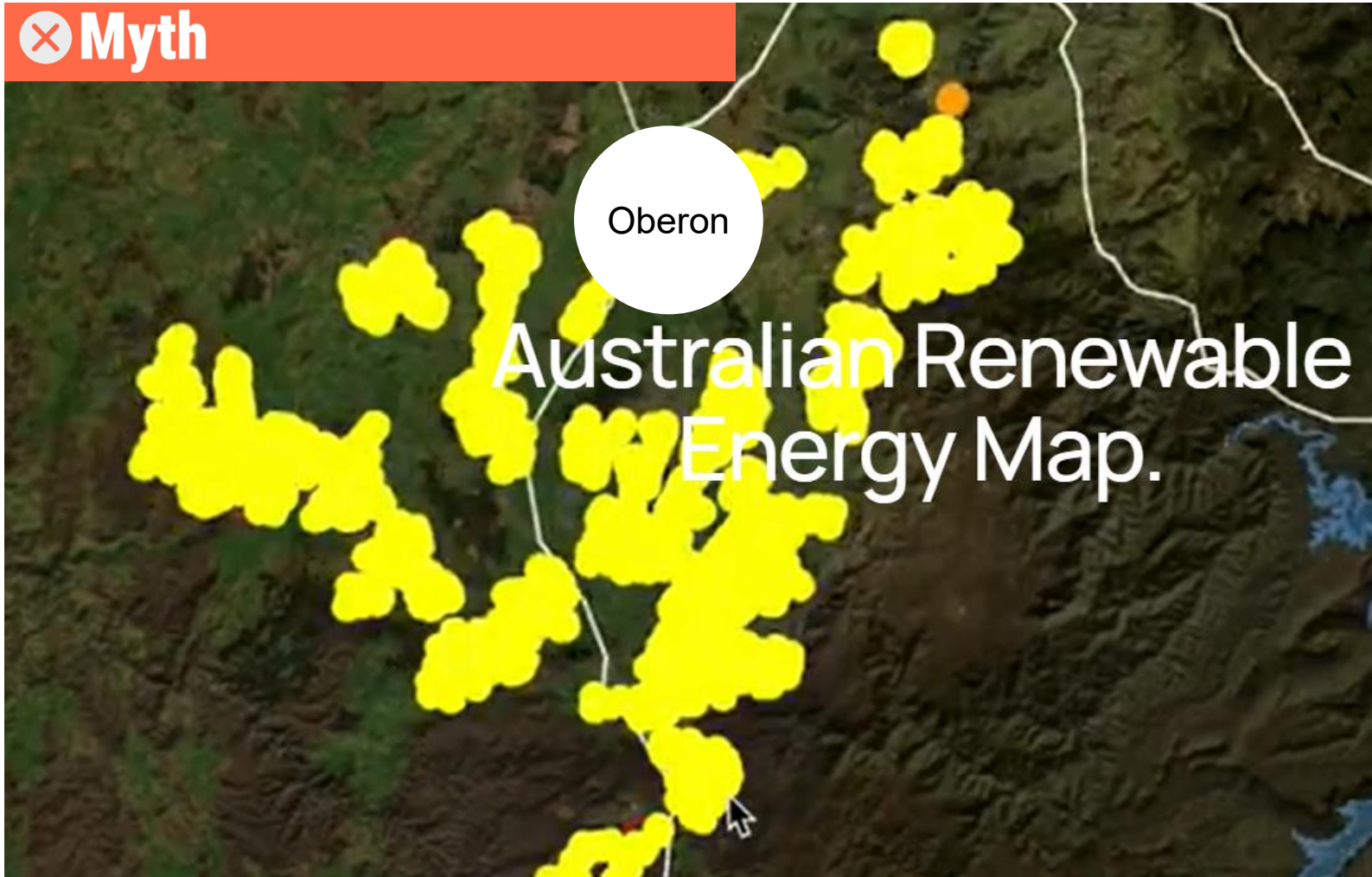


## ✔ Fact





## ✘ Myth

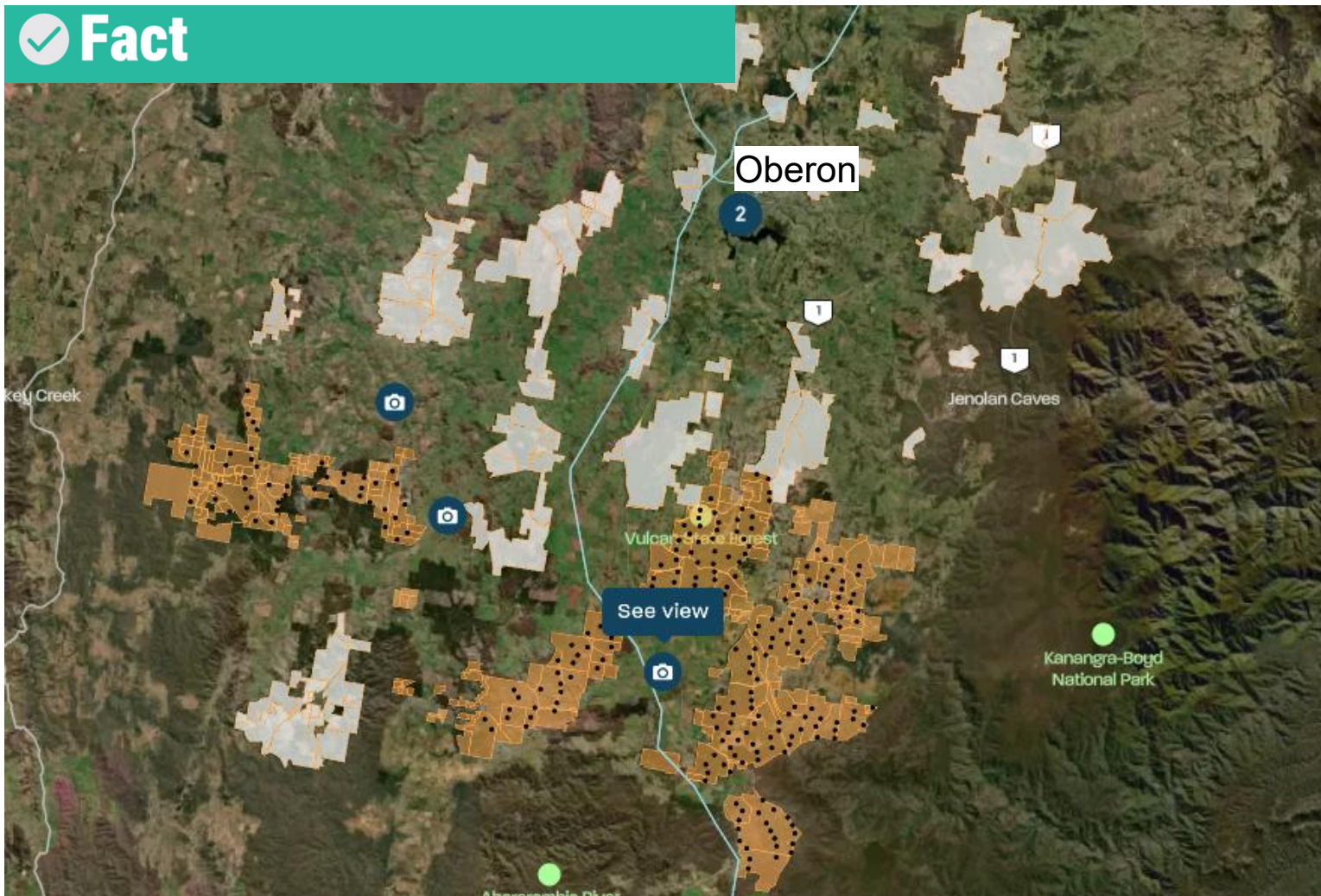


- ▶ Steven Nowakowski, the vice president of Rainforest Reserves Australia (RRA) spoke at a recent meeting in Oberon
- ▶ This RRA map falsely claims that The Pines Wind Farm project will be on 3 sides of Oberon, and that turbines will be much closer than 15km
- ▶ Despite our requests to have this changed, this false map is still on their landing page
- ▶ RRA has previously fabricated references, including making up a non-existent wind farm in planning submissions
- ▶ RRA were recently questioned about spreading misinformation by a Federal Govt. Senate Committee

This map (screenshot taken 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025) is from <https://www.rainforestreserves.org.au/renewablestruthmap>



## ✓ Fact



- ▶ No turbines in the state forests closest to Oberon
- ▶ No turbines within 15km of Oberon
- ▶ Only state forest turbines are in the orange “Investigation Area”
- ▶ No turbines in the grey state forest areas



### **Safety is paramount at TagEnergy.**

We have been advised by Vestas, our Engineering, Procurement and Construction contractor at the Golden Plains Wind Farm in Victoria, that a supplier has provided internal service lifts whose braking systems contain trace amounts of asbestos. This is contrary to the specifications outlined in Vestas's supplier agreement. These lifts are located inside turbine towers and are used by technicians to access the top of turbines for maintenance activities.

Vestas is working closely with the supplier and partners to identify, contain, and remove the affected brake pads, and to implement suitable replacements.

The brake pads are housed within sealed units specifically designed to contain brake dust. This design has effectively mitigated the unintended presence of asbestos in the brake materials. As an added precaution, access to the turbines has been restricted and exclusion zones have been established around any units undergoing assessment and rectification.

Independent hygienists have conducted air quality and surface testing, which confirmed no detection of uncontained asbestos in any affected turbines.

Regulators have been fully briefed and have expressed confidence in the swift and thorough response undertaken by Vestas to safeguard the health, safety, and wellbeing of all personnel and the broader community.

# Responses to questions received from Oberon Council



Q&A

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