



## Harapaki Wind Farm Development, Hawke's Bay

April 2023 Update | EDITION #9

Kia ora koutou

Firstly, we want to acknowledge those people impacted by Cyclones Gabrielle and Hale. To those of you who have suffered a loss, our thoughts and hearts are with you.

Over the past month, the state of the wind farm site has been a second order of importance to us, focussing instead on the safety and wellbeing of our team and those in the surrounding communities. Through our people and our Harapaki construction partners, we've helped Unison, Transpower and Waka Kotahi restore power and provide a "lifeline" to Hawke's Bay people and communities, from Napier to Taupō via State Highway 5 (SH5).

We continue to provide support in a variety of ways across New Zealand, including the Hawke's Bay. In total, we've allocated around \$1m to our immediate relief efforts, on top of the work we're doing on the ground. Some funds will be deployed through KidsCan and Red Cross, and some will be used to provide targeted support to impacted customers, iwi, and communities close to our operations.



SH5 damaged by  
Cyclone Gabrielle.

## Site update

The actual damage to our site from Cyclone Gabrielle was less than we feared and our teams are now back on-site undertaking repair work and assessing the overall impact on the project.

Waka Kotahi, Transpower and Unison have been doing an outstanding job repairing SH5 and the transmission network and we thank them for the incredible amount they've been able to achieve since Gabrielle hit. However, due to the scale of damage, there is more work in front of them to fully restore the roading and electrical networks in Hawke's Bay.



A turbine blade being moved from Napier Port.

Our first shipment of turbines arrived in early March. Fortunately, we have storage available within the Hawke's Bay to move them to until SH5 can handle over dimensional loads and the turbines can be transported to the wind farm site.

## Powering the community

In times such as these, there are always stories of great kindness and ingenuity. The picture to the right represents just this sort of thing. Lloyd Clark, our Environmental and Sustainability Design Manager, and his family are regular customers of Gee's Pharmacy in Taradale. One of the pharmacy staff remembered seeing the Meridian electric vehicle around Taradale and recalled that Lloyd worked for Meridian. She knew roughly where Lloyd and his family lived, so in the pouring rain during the tail end of the cyclone, her and her husband came looking for the car and found them.

Together, they were able to connect the electric car, plus one other, to the pharmacy. The cars powered the pharmacy for 6 days, allowing the community to get their medication.

We know there's much ahead of us all and we will continue to provide support to get Hawke's Bay back on its feet.

If you have any queries about the project, please email us at [harapaki@meridianenergy.co.nz](mailto:harapaki@meridianenergy.co.nz).

Ngā mihi

### Robert Batters

Project Manager Harapaki Wind Farm



A Meridian car powering Gee's Pharmacy.