



Harapaki Wind Farm Development, Hawke's Bay

March 2024 Update | EDITION #13

Kia ora koutou

I hope this update finds you and your whānau well, having enjoyed a much warmer and drier summer than last year. Certainly the better weather has enabled us to make good progress on the wind farm. It's hard to believe that within the next six months, Harapaki will be completed and providing Hawke's Bay with more resiliency in terms of security of supply, with the electricity generated from the wind farm being used in the region first.

The majority of work remaining on site is turbine installation. Civil works have been completed, as have most of the electrical works. We've also finished all the planting and hydroseeding, and it's good to see they've been thriving in the warmer weather, helped with some frequent rain!

Over the next month, we'll start to close down the temporary project site office as we reduce the number of teams onsite. Those remaining on site until completion will move to the service building located just inside the site entrance. While it's sad to see people finish their role on site, it's a great sense of achievement to see the wind farm near completion. We'd like to thank everyone, including the community, for their support and commitment to building Harapaki.



View of the Harapaki wind turbine site.

Twenty turbines generating

The Siemens Gamesa turbine team have made excellent progress since our last update. The halfway milestone has been reached, with 20 turbines installed and already generating 86MW of renewable energy. Depending on the wind conditions, that's already enough to power around 35,000 average homes.

We have another 21 turbines to install and get ready to commission to complete the wind farm. The weather continues to provide challenges, but we're confident that we'll be on schedule to have Harapaki fully commissioned by the end of September.

Big machinery required

Each of the Harapaki wind turbines are made up of three tower sections, the nacelle (which includes the 70-tonne generator), the rotor and three blades. The size and weight of these components mean we need a very large crane, plus a few smaller ones helping, to fully install a turbine. The largest crane on site is a LTR11200, a telescopic-boom, crawler crane, which is great for erecting wind turbines. This crane has the ability to lift turbine components to a hub height of 120m, well in excess of our 85m hub height for this project.

It moves around the site at a top speed of 1-2km/hr and recently made the long journey out to the north-eastern string of turbine locations, the furthest string of turbines from the site entrance on State Highway 5, over 10km's away.

Tarpaulins are still available

We still have a number of tarpaulins to give away to the community. The tarpaulins were used to cover the turbine components during their delivery to New Zealand and up to site. There are various sizes but are mostly around 4.2 – 4.6 square metres. If you know of anyone who can make good use of them, please get them to contact us at harapaki@meridianenergy.co.nz.

A year on from Cyclone Gabrielle

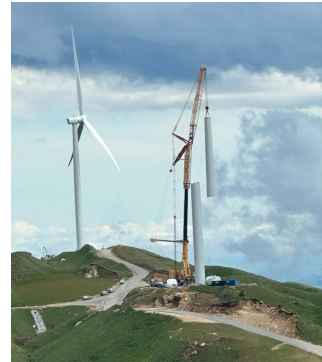
We'd like to acknowledge all of those within the community who have been affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. The last 12 months have been very difficult for many and our thoughts remain with you and your whānau. We have created a video to recognise the efforts of those who helped us to get our project back on track. You can view this [here](#).

As always, if you have any queries about the project, please email us at harapaki@meridianenergy.co.nz.

Ngā mihi

Robert Batters

Project Manager Harapaki Wind Farm



Assembling the massive wind turbines.



Big machinery in action.