

**Mount Munro Wind Farm: Stakeholder Liaison Group  
Meeting 20 May 2026  
Venue: Whare kai at Te Wananga Taiao O Manukura  
Time: 530pm start**

**Attendance:**

Nathan Baker, Independent Facilitator Matua Warren, Te Wananga Taiao O Manukura Horipo Rimene, Rangitāne o Wairarapa Janet McIlraith, HMMPS Chair John Maxwell, HMMPS Shelly Pender, Hall Road Teresa Bardella, Opaki Kaiparoro Road Jason Taylor, Old Coach Road	Stuart Wright, Horizons Regional Council Lloyd Clark, Meridian Caroline Rea, Meridian Kate Gullery, Meridian Vince Smith, Meridian Andre Holm, Meridian
--	--

Note: Other stakeholders invited either gave their apology or did not respond to the meeting invite.

**Meeting Summary:**

These notes summarise the key points of the meeting and document any actions that were agreed. Prior to the SLG meeting proper, Matua Warren, Evelyn and Tracey of Te Wananga Taiao O Manukura, welcomed all to the venue.

	Agenda Item
1.	<p><b>Meeting Open and Introductions</b></p> <p>Nathan opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. He invited Matua Warren to open with a Karakia which Warren did.</p> <p>Nathan invited each attendee to briefly introduce themselves, which they did.</p>
2.	<p><b>Any Actions from previous Meeting</b></p> <p>Nathan summarised the actions from the previous meeting, as set out below:</p> <p>2.1 Nathan to make revisions and reissue the draft TOR to all for their review and feedback. Ideally work to have the TOR agreed by all for the next SLG. <b>Actioned</b></p> <p>2.2 Nathan to draft Meeting Minutes promptly and issue to all. All to turn-around their feedback promptly. <b>Actioned – minutes available on Meridian Project website.</b></p> <p>2.3 Nathan to reconsider the approach of separate/ combined SLG and communicate the outcome prior to the next SLG in 3 months time. <b>Actioned – Meridian confirmed that the SLG will be held as a single group meeting.</b></p> <p>2.4 Nathan to investigate Zoom/ virtual meeting capability of the venue for the next SLG and communicate that with SLG members prior to the meeting. <b>Actioned – Nathan explained the preference was to have stakeholders meet in person around the table together.</b></p>

	<p>2.5 Meridian to investigate a local workforce/ business survey development and have that investigation ready for discussion at the next SLG meeting. <b>Actioned – Caroline provided a brief update that that task is ongoing and there will be an update at the next SLG meeting.</b></p> <p>2.6 Meridian to investigate the use of rail for the Project and discuss any findings at the next SLG meeting. <b>Actioned – Caroline provided an update during Agenda item 3.</b></p> <p>2.7 Meridian to pre-circulate the CEMP for SLG feedback prior to the next SLG if it is ready. <b>Actioned – Kate provided an update at Agenda item 3.2, noting CEMP will be circulated to stakeholders shortly for feedback.</b></p> <p>2.8 Meridian to investigate the cell-phone coverage project and the solar project and report back to the SLG when findings are available. HMMPS to provide Nathan with any other ideas for a community project if they arise. <b>Actioned – Caroline provided update during Agenda item 3.1</b></p> <p>2.9 Nathan to investigate if there was a more suitable day for the SLG meeting to suit council staff (for example weekdays) and all SLG members. Nathan to communicate that to SLG members when the next meeting is being organized. <b>Actioned – Nathan noted this SLG was in attempt for find a more suitable time (mid-week after work hours rather than weekend) and that he had had feedback from Janet that a meeting during normal working hours would be more appropriate. Jason noted a lack of attendance from both District Councils. Lloyd noted District Council staff would prefer normal working hours. It was suggested that the next SLG could be held within normal working hours.</b></p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Project Update and Information</b></p> <p><b>3.1 Meridian: Project Update, Caroline Rea:</b>  Caroline presented a Project Update – slides available on Meridian’s project webpage. Key points/actions from the SLG discussion are summarised below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caroline responded to John’s question that the geotechnical investigations had found suitable ground conditions.</li> <li>• Caroline provided an update on the cell-phone coverage investigation, noting preliminary findings demonstrated the project was feasible, although will require resource consent. In discussion about tower location and coverage, John noted that “the other side of Hastwell” might provide better coverage. Janet noted that Inspire Net had provided the community with fibre which was arranged in a loop. Caroline noted the detail can be worked through as they progress resource consent.</li> <li>• Janet noted that there was no update on the solar project. Caroline asked Janet to provide further information on what the solar project would be. <b>Action: Caroline and Lloyd to catch up with Janet to fully understand her thinking for the solar project.</b></li> <li>• Caroline provided an update on the use of rail investigation, with the overall findings that use of rail to transport turbines was not feasible, however Meridian will further investigate use of rail for other equipment/ project requirements. John clarified he was interested more in aggregate transport and was surprised by the findings. <b>Action: Caroline to send John the investigation report.</b></li> <li>• Horipo asked what Meridian would do with the chip wood/ wood from tree removal. Matua Warren expressed interest at using the wood for Te Wananga Taiao O Manukura. Caroline responded that Meridian would like to support that and saw it as a good local outcome.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>3.2 Meridian: Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Kate Gullery:</b>  Kate presented an update on the CEMP – slides available on Meridian’s project webpage. Key points/actions from the SLG discussion are summarised below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John raised dust management as a key concern and noted experts varied in opinion during the planning hearing. Kate and Caroline described project dust management and their view dust can be suitably controlled on site through management practices. Stuart noted dust management will be a focus of his role as compliance officer for Horizons.</li> <li>• John asked whether stakeholders could visit the project site during construction to observe management practices. Kate responded this was not possible for health and safety reasons, however practices could be viewed from public vantage points.</li> <li>• Matua Warren asked about the cultural management plan. Kate confirmed there will be a separate cultural management plan prepared for the project.</li> <li>• Stuart discussed Horizons role in reviewing and certifying/approving the CEMP, noting that it is a living document that may change by agreement over time to best manage environmental outcomes for the project.</li> </ul> <p><b>3.3 Meridian: Meridian Power Up Community Fund, Vince Smith:</b>  Vince presented on the Meridian Power Up Community Fund – slides available on Meridian’s project webpage. Key points/actions from the SLG discussion are summarised below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vince presented a ‘first-go’ at the project catchment area for the community fund, which was effectively a 10km circle around the site. Janet queried how the 'asset community' was defined. Vince responded that he wanted to cover organisations such as Pukaha, the Eketahuna golf club, Mauriceville school, Eketahuna school.. Jason noted that the 10km circle included both Mauriceville and Eketahuna schools which benefit the local community.</li> <li>• Teresa provided her idea that a community vegetable garden would be of benefit.</li> <li>• Vince discussed the process for establishing community representatives and confirmed he was the point of contact for further information.</li> </ul>
4.	<p><b>Stakeholder Update and Information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lloyd provided information to Jason about tree removal on his property and that the arborist report will be available soon.</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No other business</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Meeting Close</b></p> <p>Nathan thanked all for attending and for their contributions and invited Matua Warren to close with a Karakia which he did. Nathan closed the meeting at about 715pm.</p>

# Mt Munro Wind Farm

## Project Update – SLG#2

# What we have been working on

Geotechnical Testing – complete, including farm track upgrades to enable safer all weather access around the site.

Detailed Design – Underway, including Safety in Design processes.

Old Coach Road – Arborist assessment, survey and detailed design. Safety Audit is currently underway.

Establishment of temporary construction office at 107 Old Coach Road (north).



# Procurement – Turbine Supplier

The logo for Vestas, featuring the word "Vestas" in a white, italicized, sans-serif font, centered within a dark grey rectangular background.

We are working with Vestas to supply and maintain the wind turbines. The turbine proposed are:

- V136 E – extreme weather rated turbines with 136m rotor diameter
- Hub Height – 88m.

Vestas have a base in Palmerston North and supply and maintain three of the four wind farms on the Tararua Ranges.



# Procurement – Civil Contractor Early Contractor Involvement



We have chosen to work with HEB Construction to undertake an Early Contractor Involvement design review and then subsequently price for the works.

HEB were the runner up for the Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Civil Works which was comprehensively tendered in 2025.

HEB were part of the Te Ahu a Turanga Alliance, which has successfully delivered the Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway.

At this stage it is proposed that HEB will undertake all civil works, including the Enabling Roding upgrades (Old Coach Road North).



# What is next:

Completion of detailed design and Safety Audit of the Enabling Road Works.

Tendering of Electrical Balance of Plant works.

Procurement of the supply electrical equipment (transformer, switchgear and cables). Confirm Transpower Works Agreement.

Negotiations with HEB to form binding contract for the Enabling Road Works.

Continued negotiations with Vestas and HEB to form binding contracts for the turbine supply and main civil works.

Design of the O&M facility. Tendering with identified Design and Build contractors.

Application of a water take consent.



# High Level Timeframes

- Detailed Design and procurement – on-going to October 2026
- Enabling Road Works to start September 2026 (Subject to Board approval)
- Final Investment Decision (FID) – December 2026
- Main Site Works to commence – January 2027
- First Power – Early 2029
- Full Power – Mid 2029
- Project Completion – Late 2029



# Update of Queries from SLG#1

## Enabling of Cellphone Coverage in the Hastwell Area

We have been working with One NZ, Meridian's telecommunications partner, to assess what would be involved with improving cellphone coverage in the Hastwell Area.

There is a feasible solution, called a Mini-Macro, which can be mounted on an existing pole, similar to the arranged shown.

Meridian is willing to work with the Hastwell Community to identify possible locations for this arrangement. (needs a pole, power and fibre connection).

Meridian could then engage One NZ to do a detailed coverage assessment and make a recommendation.

Once a location is confirmed and landowner approvals are granted, Meridian can work with One NZ to obtain a Resource Consent.

Funding for the project can then be applied for through the Power-Up fund.



# Update of Queries from SLG#1

## Use of Rail during the Project

We have engaged Vitruvius consultants to provide an assessment for rail feasibility for the turbine components. Their findings are that all turbine components cannot be transported by rail as they exceed the weight and width/height restrictions. A copy of the report can be provided.

HEB Construction Ltd were asked to provide commentary of if it was feasible to transport aggregates via rail. As the majority of aggregates will be sourced close to site, the process of double handling of materials has a cost and carbon disbenefit. HEB have said that they will consider rail as an option for any selected long-haul, high volume materials sourced from outside of the region.

As part of the geotechnical testing on site, we have found that the natural rock is very hard wearing and suitable for most pavement layers excluding the final top basecourse layer and running surface. Therefore, the amount of imported aggregate will be reduced from the original estimates.



# Construction Environmental Management Plan



**(CEMP)**

# What is a CEMP

- A CEMP is a master environmental management document for construction projects
- It outlines how environmental effects will be managed, monitored, and controlled
- Ensures compliance with resource consents, legislation, and contractual requirements
- Applies to all contractors and subcontractors working on site.

# Why it's important



- **Environmental Risk Management**

- The CEMP identifies environmental risks and implements controls to mitigate construction impacts effectively.

- **Accountability and Transparency**

- The plan clarifies responsibilities and ensures transparent communication among project teams and stakeholders.

- **Monitoring and Reporting**

- The CEMP establishes ongoing monitoring and reporting processes to address issues promptly and maintain compliance.

- **Building Trust and Social License**

- The plan supports relationship-building and trust with stakeholders, enhancing the project's social licence.

# Purpose of the Mt Munro CEMP

- Provide a framework for environmental management during construction
- Ensure compliance with consent conditions and approvals
- Identify and manage potential environmental effects  
Define roles, responsibilities, and procedures
- Support achievement of project environmental objectives and KPIs
- The CEMP is updated throughout construction. Updates reflect:
  - Changes to works
  - Lessons learned
  - Improved environmental outcomes

Amendments may not require re-certification if impacts are minimal



# What the CEMP Covers

## **Broad Environmental Coverage**

The CEMP covers all construction activities that may impact the environment to manage risks comprehensively.

## **Risk Management Measures**

Includes controls for land disturbance, erosion, water quality, noise, and protection of ecological and cultural values.

## **Monitoring and Reporting**

Defines monitoring and reporting to track environmental performance throughout the project duration.

## **Incident and Complaints Handling**

Procedures ensure prompt and systematic response to incidents and complaints during the construction phase.



# Supporting Environmental Management Plans

Acts as the overarching environmental plan for the project

Sits within the broader project management framework

Guides the development of:

- Contractor Management Plans (CMPs)
- Specialist environmental sub-plans
- Erosion & Sediment Control Plan (ESCP)
- Stormwater Management Plan (SMP)
- Noise & Vibration Management Plan
- Ecology / biodiversity plans
- Cultural monitoring and archaeology plans

Ensures consistency across all site activities



# Monitoring, Reporting, and Assurance

## Routine Inspections and Monitoring

Regular inspections and environmental parameter monitoring ensure effective implementation of the construction environmental plan.

## Compliance Verification and Risk Identification

Monitoring activities help verify compliance with consent conditions and identify emerging environmental risks promptly.

## Timely Corrective Actions

The monitoring framework enables timely corrective actions when non-compliance or unexpected effects are detected.

Ongoing monitoring and inspections ensures:

- Compliance with consent conditions
- Early identification of issues
- Continuous improvement



# What this means for stakeholders

## Early Risk Identification

CEMP ensures environmental risks are detected early and managed proactively with planned controls.

## Regulatory Compliance

The project operates under resource consents and regulatory approvals ensuring strict adherence to environmental laws.

## Accountability and Transparency

Clear accountability across contractors and transparent monitoring enable effective tracking and issue resolution.

## Adaptive Environmental Management

CEMP incorporates lessons learned and adapts management practices to improve environmental outcomes over time.



# Management Plan Timeframes

## Stakeholder Liaison Group and Management Plans

The Stakeholder Liaison Group has the opportunity to comment on draft versions of the following management plans:

The Construction Environment Management Plan

Construction Traffic Management Plan

Dust Management Plan

Concrete Batching Management Plan

Operational Noise Management Plan

Draft Plans to be sent to the SLG beginning of June for a review period prior to submission to Council at the beginning of July.



# Mount Munro Wind Farm

Power Up community fund

# Power Up community fund

The Mount Munro Power Up fund will contribute \$30,000 each year to projects that directly benefit the communities and whenua closest to our wind farm.

It's about backing local projects that make a real difference – whether that's environmental, cultural, recreational, educational, volunteer or health-related.

A local advisory panel made up of community members and Meridian staff will review applications each year and decide together how to best allocate the funding, against a set criteria.



## What could this fund support locally?

- Community hall upgrades – heating, kitchen or accessibility improvements
- School projects – gardens, learning resources, sports gear
- Sports clubs – equipment, uniforms
- Cell-phone coverage
- Environmental restoration – riparian planting, pest trapping, native bush care
- Golf club or recreation area improvements
- Heritage and cultural projects – e.g. local arts
- Health and wellbeing – community fitness, first aid equipment
- Volunteer services – fire brigade, St John, community patrol.

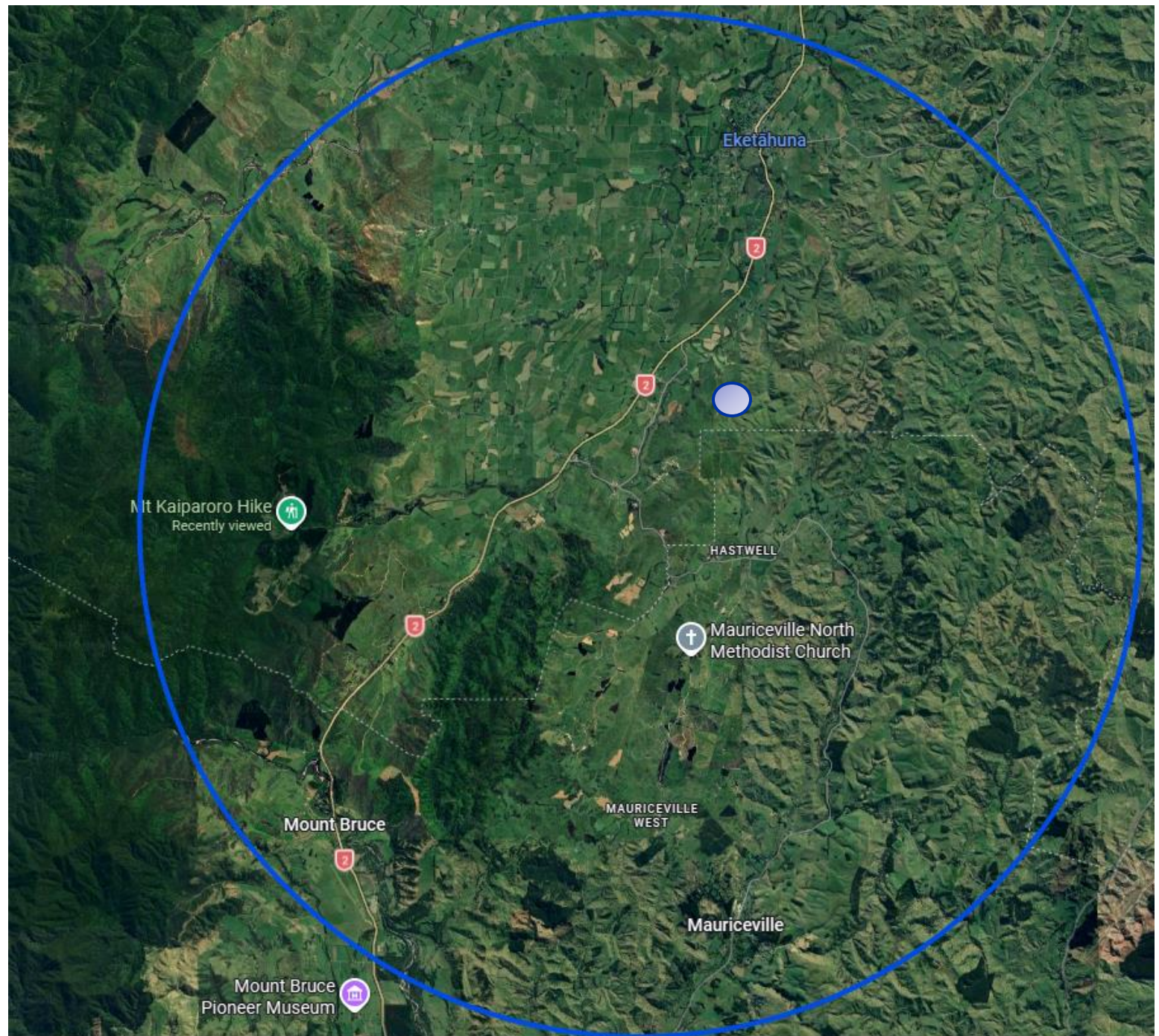


# Proposed funding area

**Communities within approximately 10km of the wind farm**

The fund covers projects that directly benefit the communities, people and whenua closest to our generation asset, including:

- Hastwell
- Eketāhuna
- Mauriceville
- Mount Bruce.



# Forming the panel

## Building a panel that represents your community

### 1. Expressions of interest

Following a final investment decision (expected December 2026), we'll invite people from within the fund area to put their hand up to join the Power Up Mount Munro advisory panel.

### 2. Panel selection

A small group of local community members will be selected alongside Meridian staff to form the panel – ensuring a good mix of perspectives and representation from across the area.

### 3. First funding round

Once the panel is formed, the first round of applications will open. We'll share more on timing as the project progresses.



# Power Up funding round in practice

## Applications open

The fund opens for a set period each year. For the first round, Meridian will be hands-on – running pop-up sessions in Eketāhuna and Mauriceville to help people with their applications, and reaching out to local schools, clubs and community groups.

## Panel review

Once applications close, the advisory panel meets to review them together and decide which projects to fund. The panel sets the priorities – Meridian handles the administration.

## Outcomes and payment

All applicants are contacted with the outcome. Successful groups provide the details needed for payment, and funds are distributed promptly.



# Questions and next steps

We'd love to hear your thoughts on how the Power Up fund could best support your community.

## Some things to think about:

- What projects or groups in the area would benefit most?
- Would you or someone you know be interested in joining the advisory panel?
- What's the best way for us to reach people when applications open?

Get in touch: [community@meridianenergy.co.nz](mailto:community@meridianenergy.co.nz)

