



## Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering Newsletter

MARCH 2025 Community Update | EDITION #2

Kia ora,

Welcome to our second community update for the Te Rere Hau Repowering Project. In this edition, you'll find information on how site works are progressing, an update on the Iwi, Stakeholder and Community Liaison group, Meridian's plan to acquire NZ Windfarms, and where you can find more information or contact us with any questions you may have.

### Pre-works blessing

In late January, we held a special pre-dawn blessing ceremony at Te Rere Hau, signalling the start of our repowering project.

We were joined by the three local Iwi, as Manahi Paewai, kaumatua from Rangitāne o Tāmaki Nui a Rua performed the blessing, Terry Hapi from Rangitāne o Manawatū welcomed us and explained the significance of the site and James Kendrick representing Kahungunu ki Tāmaki nui a Rua joined the special event with the project team and contractors.



Terry Hapi (Rangitāne o Manawatū) and Manahi Paewai (Kaumatua from Rangitāne o Tāmaki Nui a Rua).



The wider project team celebrating after the pre-dawn blessing.

## Work is underway

Earthworks are now underway to prepare platforms for the concrete batching plant, civil works laydown area, and substation area. Construction of these areas will continue as part of the main works. Please be aware of increased truck movements on North Range Road as we start to transport in some aggregate to finish off the platforms.

We've also been ensuring that erosion and sediment controls are in place so that any rainwater runoff from the platforms is controlled and treated before it enters local streams.

Transportation of the large equipment needed for re-powering the wind farm will require some upgrading of roads. Testing and surveying of Pahiatua Track / North Range Road intersection is underway so that designs for necessary upgrade works can be completed once the main works are underway.

## Iwi partnerships

We have been working closely with each of the three iwi (Rangitāne o Tāmaki Nui a Rua, Rangitāne o Manawatū and Kahungunu ki Tāmaki nui a Rua) to address the cultural and environmental impacts from the project as they relate to their respective rohe. The wind farm has, and will continue to be, a prominent feature in the region so developing a solid, long-term relationship between all parties, is crucial.

One of the actions underway as part of the partnership, is to undertake pre-construction kaitiaki surveys. The surveys vary and are unique to each iwi, and may include measures such as enabling works construction monitoring, organising trapping for pest to protect lizards, or customary activities such as collection of mahinga kai. The surveys also provide an opportunity for iwi partners to consider which mātāpuna (water sources) would be best protected by fencing.

## Removing the turbines

To ensure we're removing the turbines in the most safe and efficient way, we'll be conducting a trial during April and taking down one retired turbine tower. Removal of the remaining turbines will most likely start in July.

Part of this has been investigating and trialling how we can recycle as much of a turbine as possible. We've been working with a local recycling company and will advise how this is progressing in future community updates.



## Iwi, Stakeholder and Community Liaison Group

Our first Iwi, Stakeholder and Community Liaison Group meeting was held in late January. It was a good opportunity to meet some neighbours and for us to provide an update on the project. The next meeting is planned for late April. If you would like to attend, please email us at [repower@nzwindfarms.co.nz](mailto:repower@nzwindfarms.co.nz)

## Meridian enters agreement to acquire NZ Wind Farms

You may be aware that NZ Windfarms (NZWF) and Meridian are 50/50 joint venture partners in the repowering of the Te Rere Hau Wind Farm.

Currently, Meridian holds 19.99% of the shares in NZWF but recently entered into a Scheme Implementation Agreement (SIA) to acquire all shares in NZWF. Our offer is now with NZWF shareholders and the High Court to approve the deal.

If successful, both Te Rere Hau and Hau Nui Wind Farm near Martinborough would join the Meridian generation fleet.

While we're really excited about it, there's still a way to go. The shareholder vote will take place in May and, if successful, we expect legal ownership will transfer to Meridian in July. If the vote is not successful, the project will still continue under the current joint venture arrangement.

## Next stages of project

We're now working through the tender process to secure and appoint a main civil works contractor along with a turbine supplier. These are a critical part of the pre-works phase and we're hoping to make an announcement on these appointments in July, when the project is scheduled to be formally approved.

Encouraging local employment and investment is a requirement of the project. Our objective is to ensure that 50% of the workforce's primary place of residence is in the Manawatū-Whanganui, and Wellington regions and 15% of project cost is spent locally.

Similar targets were set for Meridian's most recent wind farm build, Harapaki in Hawke's Bay, and very pleasingly were surpassed.

## Where to find more information

Please pass this newsletter on to anybody else who may be interested or ask them to subscribe by emailing us at [repower@nzwindfarms.co.nz](mailto:repower@nzwindfarms.co.nz)

You can also find more information about the project by scanning the QR code.

If you have any questions, you can email us at the address above.



Ngā mihi

**Alan de Lima**

Project Manager

TE RERE HAU REPOWERING PROJECT