



Waiinu Energy Park

September 2025 Update | EDITION #3

Kia ora koutou,

This is just a quick update to let you know that we've made a few changes to the project design for the Waiinu Energy Park.

Project design changes

We've now held two community open days and had discussions with various people in the local community who could be affected by the project. We've also carried out assessments of potential effects such as noise and visual amenity on neighbouring properties, and we're working with local iwi and hapū to identify and manage the potential cultural effects.

Having considered the feedback we received from the community, and applying expert advice based on the results of the effects assessments, we've made some changes to the proposed turbine layout presented at the latest open day in June.

This includes the removal of four turbines that would have had the highest visual effects on Waiinu Beach village residents. We have also removed the two turbines that were closest to Waitōtara, and adjusted the position of other wind turbines to reduce cultural, ecological and archaeological effects.

In addition, we've increased the amount of solar capacity by around 130MW, bringing the total to about 230MW. The solar is planned for the centre of the site next to areas of forestry or farmland.

We're now looking at a total possible generation capacity of about 620MW from 56 wind turbines and 250ha of solar array. As previously advised, the project design also includes a battery energy storage system.

Consenting process

We're continuing to work towards the Fast-Track Approvals referral process for the project and now expect to apply later this year. We'll let you know if we're accepted into the process – we hope to find out in early 2026.

We've chosen to use the fast-track process because it provides certainty about the steps we need to take to gain approval to build the project. It enables us to seek all the relevant consents and approvals through one process, with only one decision and outcome.



Any questions?

We'll provide another update before the end of the year.

In the meantime, if you have questions about the Waiinu Energy Park, check out our website at www.meridianenergy.co.nz/waiinu-energy-park.

You can also email us at renewables@meridianenergy.co.nz, phone us on 0800 496 496, or write to us at:

Renewable Development Team

Meridian Energy
PO Box 10840
Wellington 6140

Please pass on this newsletter to anyone you know who might like to receive it. They can [sign up for updates here](#).

Ngā mihi,

Michael Thomson

Project Development Manager – Waiinu Energy Park
MERIDIAN ENERGY