

Kondinin Wind and Solar Project: Environmental and social assessments

September 2026

The Kondinin Wind and Solar Project has undertaken a range of environmental, cultural heritage, social and economic assessments to understand potential impacts, identify opportunities and inform project design and management. These assessments have been supported by consultation with landholders, neighbours, Traditional Owners, local government, businesses, community organisations and residents.

This document summarises:

- what the assessments considered
- their main findings
- how the findings are influencing project planning and management.

1 Environmental assessment

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been completed. It considers the local landscape, native flora and fauna, noise, dust, visual amenity, traffic, stormwater and other construction and operational impacts. The findings have informed updates to the project layout and proposed management measures. Construction and environmental management plans will set out controls such as noise monitoring, dust suppression, screening, traffic management and scheduling activities to reduce disruption, including during important farming periods.

2 Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment

The project is located on Ballardong Country and has worked with the Ballardong Aboriginal Corporation under the Ballardong Indigenous Land Use Agreement and the Noongar Standard Heritage Agreement. An Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment was completed in 2023, followed by archaeological and ethnographic surveys in 2024 with Ballardong Knowledge Holders, Cultural Heritage Officers and independent heritage specialists.

The surveys identified culturally significant areas, including two granite domes and a white ochre source. Heritage Exclusion Zones were established, and two wind turbines and associated access tracks were relocated to avoid these areas. Recommended measures include heritage monitoring during initial ground disturbance, cultural heritage inductions, chance-find procedures and ongoing involvement of Ballardong representatives.

3 Social and community assessment

The project has reviewed the social and economic profile of the Shire of Kondinin using local government information, Australian Bureau of Statistics data and community insights. Stakeholder analysis and mapping, together with approximately 600 engagements over two years, including via a dedicated Community Liaison Officer, have helped identify local priorities and potential concerns.

Topics raised include construction noise, dust and traffic; visual amenity; pressure on housing, services and water; agricultural productivity and biosecurity; road safety; protection of cultural heritage; and the potential effects of a temporary construction workforce. The project is considering these matters through design refinements, management plans, workforce-accommodation planning, early communication and ongoing feedback channels.

4 Economic impact assessment

An independent Economic Impact Assessment considered the project's direct and indirect economic contribution.

The assessment estimated the project could support:

- approximately 357 jobs each year during construction, comprising up to:
 - 145 direct jobs
 - 212 indirect jobs
- approximately 22 jobs each year during the 35-year operational period, comprising up to:
 - 10 direct jobs

- 12 indirect jobs
- approximately \$491.1 million in additional Western Australian economic output during construction.

5 Climate Change Risk Assessment

An independent Climate Change Risk Assessment has been completed for the proposed Kondinin Wind Farm to understand how future climate conditions may affect the project over its operating life. The assessment reviewed a range of potential climate hazards, including extreme heat, bushfire weather, drought, flooding, storms and other severe weather events. The findings indicate that the project is generally well positioned to operate safely and reliably under projected future climate conditions, with most risks considered low and manageable through standard design, construction and operational practices.

The assessment found that rising temperatures are the most significant climate-related factor likely to affect the project over time, primarily through a small reduction in energy production during periods of extreme heat. Bushfire weather and intense rainfall events are also expected to increase in frequency or severity, however existing management measures and emergency response procedures are expected to effectively manage these risks. Overall, the review concluded that the Kondinin Wind Farm demonstrates a level of climate resilience consistent with modern utility-scale wind farm developments in Australia and is expected to remain a reliable source of renewable energy under future climate conditions.

6 Human Rights Assessment

The Kondinin Wind Farm has undergone an independent Human Rights Assessment to identify and evaluate any potential impacts on workers, local communities, and other stakeholders. The assessment found that the project is being developed within Australia's strong legal and regulatory framework, which provides protections for workplace rights, health and safety, non-discrimination, Indigenous cultural heritage, and community participation. No actual adverse human rights impacts were identified at the current stage of project development, and existing project commitments include

measures relating to worker welfare, health and safety, environmental management, modern slavery prevention, and contractor oversight.

The assessment also recognised the project's engagement with the Ballardong Traditional Owners and the wider Kondinin community. Cultural heritage surveys have been completed, and recommendations from Traditional Owners, including the protection of identified cultural sites and the involvement of heritage monitors during construction activities, have been incorporated into project planning. The assessment concluded that the project has a low overall human rights risk profile and identified opportunities to further strengthen policies and grievance processes as part of a commitment to continuous improvement and responsible development.

7 How the findings are being used

Assessment and consultation findings have already influenced the project, including changes to avoid culturally sensitive areas, consideration of agricultural operations and drainage, and tower-lighting changes requested through local engagement. The project will continue to review potential impacts and cumulative pressures as planning progresses, record and respond to feedback, and update management measures where required.

Together, these activities provide the project's current understanding of environmental and social matters. However, they do not constitute a separate social impact assessment that has been independently verified. Further assessment and engagement will continue as the project develops.

8 Appendix: Glossary of Terms

Biosecurity: Measures used to prevent the introduction or spread of weeds, pests and diseases that could affect agriculture, native species, livestock or the environment.

Chance Finds Procedure: A process that sets out the actions workers must take if they unexpectedly discover Aboriginal cultural heritage, archaeological material or other potentially significant items during construction or ground disturbance activities.

Climate resilience: The ability of a project, community or system to anticipate, prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events while continuing to operate effectively.

Cumulative pressures: The combined effects of this project and other existing, approved or proposed activities in the area that may place additional demands on communities, infrastructure, services, land use or the environment.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A detailed assessment that identifies the potential environmental impacts of a proposed project and the measures that will be used to avoid, reduce, manage or offset those impacts.

Ethnographic survey: An assessment that records and documents Traditional Owners' knowledge, stories, cultural values and connections to an area.

Grievance process: A formal process that enables workers, community members and other stakeholders to raise concerns, complaints or feedback and receive a fair and timely response.

Heritage Exclusion Zone: An area identified for protection where project activities are avoided or restricted to prevent impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage, environmental values or other sensitive features.

Human rights: The basic rights and freedoms that belong to all people, including the rights to safety, fair treatment, non-discrimination, participation in decision-making and respect for cultural heritage.

Independently verified social impact assessment: A social impact assessment that has been reviewed by an independent qualified party to confirm that the assessment methods, findings and conclusions are credible, evidence-based and consistent with recognised standards.

Indirect jobs: Jobs supported through the project's spending with suppliers, contractors, service providers and other businesses, rather than jobs directly employed by the project.

Modern slavery prevention: Actions taken to identify, prevent, mitigate and address the risk of forced labour, human trafficking, child labour and other forms of worker exploitation in business activities and supply chains.

Social impact assessment: A process used to identify, assess and manage the potential social impacts, both positive and negative, that a project may have on people, communities and livelihoods.

Stakeholder: A person, group or organisation that may be affected by, have an interest in, or influence a project and its activities.

Traditional Owners: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have traditional rights, responsibilities and cultural connections to a particular area of land or waters.

Visual amenity: How a project may affect the appearance of the surrounding landscape and the views experienced by people living, working or travelling in the area.

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