

THE VOICE

October, 2008

Emergency after hours contact numbers:

Crookwell / Bigga / Binda / Tuena / Grabben Gullen / Laggan / Taralga / Big Hill areas:

Roads, bridges and tips 0429 786 659, water and sewer 0407 496 358.

Gunning / Dalton / Breadalbane / Collector / Jerrawa areas: Roads, bridges and tips, water and sewer 0427 454 206.

Police and Fire all areas anytime 000.

Cullerin Range Wind Farm project update from Origin

Project Status

SINCE receiving development approval from the NSW Government in February 2007, the Cullerin Range Wind Farm project has progressed through to construction design and the preliminary construction phases.

Following approval of the Construction Environmental Management Plan by the NSW Planning Department on 19 June 2008, extensive geotechnical work was undertaken to design the road from Lerida Road North to the top of the ridge, as well as the roadworks between the 15 turbines.

The Upper Lachlan Shire Council was contracted to upgrade the Lerida Road North so that some bends were straightened and the road was levelled so that long low loaders could deliver the equipment to site. Currently Origin's contractors, Catcon, have 60 workers on site – including local labour. Where possible, equipment and supplies have been sourced locally for the supply of hardware, fencing, concrete works, signage and landscaping activities. The site offices and compound are situated on Lerida Road North near the intersection with the Hume Highway.

Hardstand areas - where equipment is placed ready to

build the towers, nacelles and blades – have been established next to each tower position.

The 15 tower foundations have been dug to a depth of approximately 2m, reinforced steel has been placed at the bottom of each hole, some embeds (the tower bases that are eventually covered in reinforced concrete) have been placed in position, and are awaiting the concrete pour in the next few weeks.

A permanent Origin Site Manager has joined the team and from early September has been based on site full time.

Time Line

October 2008 – Construction continues on turbine foundations

February 2009 – Turbines Arrive

July 2009 – Project Commissioning

Origin in the Community

Origin cares about the communities in which it operates and is pleased to be collaborating with the people of the Upper Lachlan Shire Community to build this important project. As part of the construction design phase, Origin engaged in local consultations during May and June to assist in identifying key issues and opportunities to work together.

As a result, Origin is working with the Breadalbane



community towards a new community facility and we are establishing an education program for schools throughout the local district.

Would you like to find out more information and provide comments or feedback?

Email us: cullerinrangewindfarm@originenergy.com.au

Write to us: Cullerin Range Wind Farm Project, GPO Box 1199 Adelaide SA 5001

Phone us: Yvette Read, Manager, Public Relations 1800 677 315

An Origin Energy - advertorial

The Dougherty Awards

Among the various awards presented at the 'Over the Fence' Evening was the Dougherty Award.

This Award covers communication strategies put in place by councils to meet a specific community related issue, where different media and methodologies are used.

Under this category the Upper Lachlan Shire Council's newspaper, 'The Voice', received a "Highly Commended" award, the only Council in the 'Reporting to your Community' category (under 30,000 population) to be so honored.

The development of local and corporate partnerships in support of council's newspaper 'The Voice', demonstrates how a rural Council's like the Upper Lachlan, with limited financial resources, can deal with communications challenges.

For more information or to view 'the Voice' on line go to www.upperlachlan.local-e.nsw.gov.au or phone 02 4830 1000.

'The Voice' heard

A water education program, a bike recycling project and an informative community newsletter were some of the projects recognised at the annual Local Government Week Awards evening held on Wednesday night July 30, at Parramatta Park. Minister for Local Government, Paul Lynch MP was impressed with the calibre of this year's entries.

"Local Government makes a significant contribution to community wellbeing, and this was reflected in the outstanding award entries on display tonight," said Minister Lynch.

"Councils do a fantastic job creating and implementing unique programs that cater to all cross-sections of the community, and the Local Government Week awards provide an opportunity to showcase councils' sustained commitment to providing these services," added Minister Lynch.



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Group discounts & concessions available, conditions apply

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THE VOICE

*of Upper Lachlan Shire,
the Shire of villages*

PO BOX 10 Crookwell NSW 2583 Ph: (02) 4830 1000, Fax: (02) 4832 2066,

Email: council@crookwell.nsw.gov.au

PO BOX 42 Gunning NSW 2581 Ph: (02) 4845 4100, Fax: (02) 4845 1426,

Email: council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au

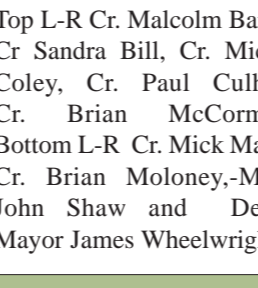
29 Orchard Street, Taralga NSW 2580 Ph: (02) 4840 2099, Fax: (02) 4840 2296,

Email: taralgacs@ceinternet.com.au

Web Site: www.upperlachlan.local-e.nsw.gov.au

Please note the Council's phone number is (02) 4830 1000

Upper Lachlan Shire's new Councillors



Top L-R Cr. Malcolm Barlow, Cr. Sandra Bill, Cr. Michael Coley, Cr. Brian McCormack, Bottom L-R Cr. Mick Mayoh, Cr. Brian Moloney, Mayor John Shaw and Deputy Mayor James Wheelwright,

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Election Results

ON SATURDAY September 13, 2008, residents of the Upper Lachlan Shire elected nine Councillors to represent them at Council over the next four years.

Voting was completed on Monday September 15, with John Shaw and Brian McCormack elected without the need of preferences. They were followed by James Wheelwright, Michael Mayoh, Paul Culhane, Sandra Bill, Brian Moloney, Michael Coley, and Malcolm Barlow.

The returning and new Councillors took their places at the Crookwell Council chambers on Thursday September 25, 2008. At this meeting returning Councillor, John Shaw,

was elected as the Mayor for a second term, while Cr James Wheelwright was returned as Deputy Mayor.

Mayor Shaw thanked the Councillors for choosing him as Mayor, saying he was humbled by the confidence shown by his fellow Councillors. The re-elected Mayor Shaw committed the Council to a continuation of the co-operative working arrangement that was so evident in the previous Council.

"The last Council, in my opinion, achieved the significant results it did because they worked so well together. There will be a number of challenges for this new Council that will demand a similar commitment. As Councillors we were elected to represent the best interest of the entire

Shire and it is through co-operation that we, as Councillors, must balance the needs of the different villages, towns and localities against our own voter base looking for the best results of the entire Shire.

"I wish to congratulate both the returning Councillors and the new faces. I look forward to working with you all during the upcoming years," Mayor Shaw said. Mayor Shaw also announced that the new Council would set aside 30 minutes before the Council's normal meetings, **Crookwell only**, for members of the public to come and ask questions of himself or any Councillor available.

Cr Wheelwright, returning as Deputy Mayor, voiced his agreement with Mayor Shaw. "I wish to thank

the voters of the Shire for my re-election and to the members of the Council for returning me as the Council's Deputy Mayor.

"There are indeed considerable hurdles ahead for this Council but I believe, like the Mayor, if this Council works closely together we can deliver the sound management the ratepayers of this Shire deserve," Deputy Mayor Wheelwright said.

Wind farm poll:

Voters were also asked "Do you support the continuing development and construction of wind farm turbines in the Upper Lachlan Council area?" The wind farm poll vote was 70.04% in favour and 29.96% against, with every polling booth registering a yes vote majority.

Country Energy investing in the Upper Lachlan



Storages, are more common than any other natural hazard, pose a danger to people and property including powerlines and electrical equipment. With this in mind, Country Energy is asking people to be prepared for storms, know what to do in a severe storm and to stay informed. Country Energy's regional general manag-

er south eastern, David Bellew said "Severe thunderstorms generally occur from September to March which is when we experience our highest incidence of unplanned electricity supply interruptions."

"Almost a third of all unplanned supply interruptions on Country Energy's network are weather related – this includes lightning strikes and storm damage. "This is also the time when we ask people to remain vigilant for fallen powerlines, damaged power poles and other electrical hazards."

Country Energy encourages people to prepare for storm season by clearing yards of loose materials and rubbish and to check

and secure tiles or roofing sheets that may blow loose and come in to contact with the power supply.

"We also ask that people assess the potential for trees or overhanging branches to come in to contact with powerlines and to contact a professional to have these trimmed," David said.

"Under no circumstances should people try to trim trees that are contacting our infrastructure or that are overhanging our poles and wires."

After a storm has rolled through an area, disrupting power, Country Energy asks that customers contact them to inform them of any supply interruption.

"While we have sophisticated equipment

that can tell us where a problem is, it's always helpful to have customers call in. "We'll respond as quickly as we can, restoring power as fast as safety allows," David said. "We just ask that people be patient and keep post-storm safety in mind – don't go near downed powerlines and be careful of areas where there's a lot of debris or downed trees because it could conceal an energised powerline."

For further information concerning storm safety contact 13 23 56, drop into your nearest Customer Service Centre or visit www.countryenergy.com.au.

* As measured by insurance costs - Commonwealth of Australia 2008, Bureau of Meteorology.

Proud to sponsor the Voice of the Upper Lachlan Shire