MAY 2026

NEWSLETTER

MT GELLIBRAND WIND FARM



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IN THIS EDITION

PROJECT UPDATE

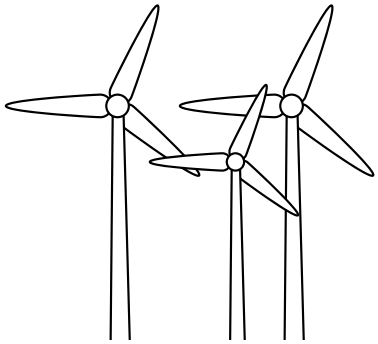
COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

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Proactive Maintenance Activities

Taking a proactive approach to maintenance, our team identified and replaced three underground cable joints before any issues arose. This forward-thinking work helps prevent unplanned downtime and ensures the reliability of our electricity network.

Welcome to the Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm Newsletter! As we move through the first quarter of 2026, we're pleased to share the latest updates from our site, introduce some new faces to the team, and highlight the ongoing work that keeps our wind farm operating safely and efficiently. From maintenance milestones to community collaborations, there's plenty to update you on.

PROJECT UPDATE

As we settle into 2026, the Mt Gellibrand team remains focused on the important work of maintaining the highest standards at our wind farm. Our priority as always is ensuring we are safely generating reliable clean energy for the region. Here's what's been happening on site over recent months.

Annual Maintenance program

Our maintenance schedule is a year-round commitment, with activities carefully planned to create minimal disruption while maximising turbine performance and longevity.

The site completes a minor service in January and major service from July. This involves inspection of the wind turbine and components. Annual blade inspections are also completed. These routine but critical checks allow our team to identify and address any issues early, keeping our turbines turning safely and efficiently throughout the year.

Welcoming our new technicians

We're delighted to welcome two new locally based electricians to the Mt Gellibrand team. Their experience and connection to the region strengthen our workforce and reflect our ongoing commitment to local employment.

The site worked with Ambulance Victoria

We were pleased to collaborate with Ambulance Victoria in some emergency scenario drills. The mapping and signage system we developed together will support faster, more effective emergency response on site if ever needed.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Supporting our communities

We're proud to be an active member of the local community, and the first months of 2026 have seen us continuing to build relationships and support initiatives across the region.

Powercor CitiPower Graduates Visit

In November 2026, Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm hosted 20 Powercor/CitiPower graduates. This is the second year they have visited Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm through their internal graduates' program. This gives the graduates an opportunity to see a Wind Turbine up close and learn about how the site operates. Site Technicians Tim Wasylewski and Jake Brent demonstrated how to shut a turbine down while explaining the internal workings.



Emergency Services Collaboration

In conjunction with Ambulance Victoria, Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm undertakes regular emergency response drills. Acciona welcomes opportunities to work with all emergency services to strengthen coordinated response capability in times of need.

Local Employment

Welcoming two new locally-based electricians to the Mt Gellibrand team reinforces our commitment to creating and sustaining local jobs. Both new team members bring valuable skills and local knowledge, and we're thrilled to have them on board. If you're interested in future employment opportunities at Mt Gellibrand, please keep an eye on our Keeping in Touch section or visit the ACCIONA Energía careers page.

Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm hosts Monash University tour

In October 2025, more than 40 Monash University students visited ACCIONA Energía's Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm near Colac for a guided tour led by Site Manager, Tim Newton. The group included students from Renewable Energy, Civil and Environmental Engineering, and other sustainability-focused disciplines, accompanied by Associate Professor, Roger Dargaville.

The visit began with an overview of wind farm operations and turbine technology at the site's administration building, followed by a trip to one of the turbines. Lead Technician John Pollock safely shut down the machine and opened the access door, allowing students to view internal components and continue their Q&A with the team.
Students asked thoughtful questions about wind farm development, energy market dynamics, and the future of renewables. Acciona Energía's community and environment teams also joined the tour, sharing insights into the company's sustainability and engagement efforts. The visit offered a valuable opportunity to connect academic learning with real-world infrastructure, leaving students inspired and informed.





SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

We know that local groups often have the best ideas for strengthening their communities, and we're proud to support them with funding that makes a real difference. Here is a list of 2026 and 2025 grant recipients and their projects below - congratulations to all involved!

2026 recipients

2nd Colac Sea Scout Group
NLog Cabin Restoration Project
$1,380

Beeac Community Centre
Cook Up a Storm
$1928

Beeac Golf Club Inc.
Beeac Golf Club Open
$1,500

Beeac Group CFA
Replacement Forward Command Vehicle (FCV)
$5 ,000

Beeac Primary School
Building Our Community Garden
$2,000

Beeac Progress Association
Power In The Park
$2,000

Birregurra Art Show Inc
2026 Art Show
$500

Birregurra Community Arts
Group Photo and Art Frame Cutting machine
$1,500

Birregurra Community Group
Birregurra Sunday Markets
$4,000

Birregurra Cricket Club
Purchase of equipment
$3,000

Birregurra Mechanics Hall
Upgrade of music technical equipment
$4,000

Birregurra Men's Shed
Battery powered lifting walker
$2,500

Carlisle River Primary School
Carlisle River Outdoor Learning & Sustainability Hub
$2,500

Colac & District Chamber of Commerce
Light Up Colac
$2,500

Colac City Band
Colac City Band 80th Year
$3,000

Colac Football Netball Club
Line Marking Unit
$3,280

Colac Imperials Football Netball Club
Outdoor Sport Shade Upgrade
$2,890

Colac Kana Festival
Colac Kana Festival 2027
$1,000

Colac Mallet Sports Club
Quadway Hoops
$1,910

Colac Otway Rovers AFC
First Aid Medical Assistance in 2026
$1,040

Colac Secondary College
Victorian State School Spectacular
$3,000

Colac Uniting Church
AED (defibrillator)
$1,500

Creative Otways Inc
Small Art Treasures in the Gardens 2026
$2,000

Forrest Primary School and Early Years Centre
Forrest Primary School Garden Revitalisation $2,500

Geelong & South Western Rail Heritage Society Inc.
Birregurra Railway Station Upgrade
$2,500

LET'S TALK Colac
2026 CDFNL LETS TALK Round
$2,875

Lions Club of Colac
Upright Freezer and Drinks Fridge
$2,200

Multicultural Community Services Geelong Inc.
Family and Secondary After School Support $4,000

RoadSafe Otway
Equipment upgrades
$2,501

Rotary Club of Colac West
Books for Beginners
$2,000

St Brendan's Primary School
School garden student enhancement maintenance initiative
$1,000

The Red Violets
Find Your Light - All Abilities, Inclusive Community Choir
$2,000

The Salvation Army Colac
From Table to Tomorrow
$2,500

2025 recipients

2nd Colac Sea Scout Group
New Canoes for Scouts
$1,500

Anam Cara Colac (ACC)
RenewableRays forRespite–Solar Energy (Stage 2)
$4,000

Barwon Downs Community Group Inc.
Reverse cycle split system
$3,840

Beeac Golf Club Inc.
Beeac Golf Club Open
$1,200

Colac Otway Rovers AFC
First Aid support
$1,613

Colac Pastoral & Agricultural Society
Umbrella Project
$2,200

Colac Secondary College
Victorian State School Spectacular Camp
$3,000

Creative Otways Inc
Small Art Treasures in the Gardens
$3,600

Birregurra Art Show
2025 Art Show sponsorship
$500

Birregurra Football & Netball Club
New Marquees
$4,430

Birregurra Men's Shed
Common Room Completion
$4,000

Birregurra Preschool Centre
Kindergarten Pollinator Garden
$965

Birregurra Heritage Railway Station
Upgrade of Kitchen
$4,000

Irrewarra-Beeac Football Netball Club Power source for our new netball scoreboard
$2,500

LET'S TALK Colac 2025
CDFNL LET'S TALK Round
$2,000

OCR FM
Radio Training for Locals
$1,400

Birregurra Primary School
Enhancing Literacy Through Technology
$2,035

Birregurra Recreation Reserve
New kitchen fryers
$5,000

Birregurra Community Group Inc
Birregurra Sunday Markets
$3,000

Colac Legacy Club Inc.
Mural/Street Art
$4,500

Patanga Park Scout Camp Committee Scout Camp District Hut kitchen
$5,000

Repair Cafe Colac Otway
Sew our way to a sustainable future
$928

Rotary Club of Colac West
Books for Beginners/Bubs
$2,000

The Red Violets
Find YourLight-Allabilities, inclusive, community choir
$2,000

Colac Makers' Space
All Fired up
$1,000

Birregurra Community Group Inc
Birregurra Sunday Markets
$3,000

Colac Neighbourhood House
Conversational English & Bereavement Cushions
$4,000

Warncoort Tennis Club Inc
Warncoort Tennis Courts Cleaning
$770

Yeodene CFA
Improved fire fighting capability
$1,342

Yeodene Public Hall & Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
Replace louvre windows
$5,000

Small Grants Program – next round

Applications for the 2026 Small Grants Program were open from **February** to **March** and have now closed. All successful applicants have been notified. The annual awards ceremony morning tea was held in May.

For information about the **2027 Small Grants Program** application process, please refer to the Community Hub at https://community.acciona.com.au/mt-gellibrand.

Small Grants recipients

Let's TALK Colac



Let's Talk Colac has continued to bring our community together by opening the door to honest, supportive conversations about mental health. Through local workshops and connection events, community members are gaining a clearer understanding of the mental health services available right here in Colac and how to access them when needed.

At the heart of Let's Talk is a mission to build a kinder, more connected community where every person is supported, and encouraged to speak openly about their mental wellbeing. Thank you to everyone who has joined the conversation so far. Together, we're creating a culture where talking about mental health feels natural, compassionate, and truly community-led. Let's keep the conversation going!

Yeodene CFA



The recent fire activity across our region has highlighted something our volunteers at CFA Yeodene have known for a while: the fire fighting frontline equipment needed an upgrade! Michael Spencer reached out for a CFA grant to do just that.

In 2024 alone, Yeodene volunteers participated in five strike teams, two controlled burns, and responded to 14 local fires. Through this work, it became clear that some of the 30-year-old tools, especially the plastic Quell hose branches were no longer best practice. These older branches offered limited volume control and lacked modern safety features like quick shutoff or instant fog spray. By comparison the new Protek branches purchased with the grant offer far greater safety, flexibility and firefighting effectiveness.
We are thrilled to be able to stand behind your local volunteers.

Together, we can ensure Yeodene CFA remains strong, capable, and ready for whatever comes next.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Would you benefit from funding to support your transition from secondary to tertiary education – whether university or TAFE?
Or do you know someone who would?

We have offered scholarships to local students for many years and are proud to continue this support into 2026 and beyond.

We are proud to support the following recipients -


2025 Morning Tea

2025 scholarship recipients

Maddie McCrae
University of New England
Bachelor of Animal Science

Amber Cain
The University of Melbourne
Bachelor of Science

"The scholarship has allowed me to live away from home as I attend university taking away some of the financial stress so I can focus on my studies. I am very grateful to be a recipent."
- Amber Cain

2026 scholarship recipients

Tully Joseph Borgia
Deakin University Burwood
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)

Emma Wilkeson
Deakin University, Burwood
Bachelor of Biomedical science

William Murphy
RMIT city campus
Associate Degree Civil Engineering

"I am grateful to receive the Acciona Mt Gellibrand scholarship. This will help me to focus on my studies in engineering at RMIT and help me manage the costs of settling into Melbourne."
- Will Murphy



TURBINE TECH

Taking a closer look at our turbines

Ever wondered what goes on inside a wind turbine? Our team is often asked about the technology that keeps our turbines turning, and in this regular feature, we'll share insights into the fascinating world of wind energy.

This year, our technical team is concentrating on a program of replacing hydraulic components across the wind farm. Hydraulic systems play a crucial role in turbine operation, controlling functions like blade pitching and braking. By proactively replacing these components, we ensure our turbines continue to operate safely and efficiently, maintaining the reliability that Mt Gellibrand is known for. This work requires careful planning and technical expertise, and our team, including our two newest locally-based electricians, is rising to the challenge. It's this kind of detailed, forward-looking maintenance that keeps our wind farm performing at its best year after year.



PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Looking into the future

ACCIONA Energía continues to explore opportunities to expand renewable energy generation and storage in the region. While our immediate focus remains on the safe and efficient operation of the Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm, we are always assessing the potential for future projects that could deliver clean energy and community benefits.

Any future development proposals would, of course, be subject to thorough community consultation and all necessary approvals. We'll keep the community informed as these considerations progress.

Turbine Made

Last year, in collaboration with professional surfer Josh Kerr and his surfboard brand, Draft Surf we unveiled the world's first surfboards made from decommissioned turbine blades. This project is part of our Turbine Made initiative, which explores innovative ways to repurpose retired wind turbine blades into new materials and products.

Our latest innovation has seen ACCIONA partner with Australian brand Bolero Surf to create the first commercially available surfboard fins made from 100% recycled wind turbine blades. By transforming retired turbine blades into high-performance products, we're not only reducing waste but also pushing the boundaries of sustainable innovation in the renewable energy sector.

Find out more at https://www.acciona.com.au/turbine-made.





KEEPING IN TOUCH

Environmental monitoring

Ongoing Environmental Programs Beyond fire management, our environmental monitoring continues across the site. This includes:

- Regular weed management to control invasive species
- Ongoing pest animal management programs
- Monitoring of local flora and fauna in consultation with relevant authorities

We remain committed to managing our site in a way that respects and protects the local environment for generations to come.



Community Engagement Committee

Our Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee continues to meet quarterly to discuss project progress and community matters. The minutes of each meeting, once endorsed by the committee, are available on our Community Hub.

We value the perspectives and feedback that committee members bring, and we're always interested in hearing from local residents who would like to be involved. If you'd like to learn more about the committee or express interest in joining, please get in touch via the contact details below.

Employment opportunities

ACCIONA Energía established an online employment hub during the construction of the project as a way of helping local people and contractors find work opportunities. We will keep you posted here with any future opportunities for operational roles.

Managing queries and complaints

We work hard to engage with local communities and to be a good neighbour. However, sometimes things don't go exactly to plan, and we always want to be available to listen to your concerns and do our best to resolve them.

Our Complaint Investigation and Response Plan is available on our Community Hub, outlining how we receive, investigate, and respond to community feedback.

CONTACT US

Feel free to get in touch for more information or with feedback about any of our activities.

Email: mtgellibrand@acciona.com

Freephone helpline: 1800 283 550

Community Hub: community.acciona.com.au/mt-gellibrand

Scan the QR code to subscribe and receive email updates



2026 Morning Tea