



## Harapaki Wind Farm Development, Hawke's Bay

September 2021 Update | EDITION #5

Kia ora koutou

Over the past few months, we've been busy establishing the site-based project team and undertaking enabling works as we move closer to starting bulk earthworks at our Harapaki wind farm.

We're currently establishing the project village which will allow all members of the Meridian team overseeing construction to be located on site. The project village will be operational in September.

### Safety of all road users

For those of you who regularly travel on SH5, you may have noticed an increase in traffic entering and exiting the project site. We have installed traffic warning signals on either side of the site entrance to warn road users of construction vehicles exiting the site. SH5 is already a challenging road and we want to ensure all users are taking extra care on their journey.



### Benefits to the local region

One of the objectives of the wind farm development is to employ as many people as possible from the local community and region. To date, around 60% of those employed are from the Hawke's Bay region. Our main contractors, Hicks Bros Spartan Joint Venture, continue to look for people for the project. For information about employment opportunities, please register your details [here](#). Please ensure you include an apostrophe in Hawke's Bay as the location and construction as the key word.

### Cultural monitoring

We are working closely with tangata whenua to ensure great care is taken to avoid and protect any sites of significance that might be discovered throughout construction. We have cultural monitors from Hineuru Iwi Trust and Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust on site observing major earthworks with guidance from the project archaeologist. If they suspect something has been found, we have a discovery protocol we must adhere to. Work stops immediately and the area is isolated until our archaeologist can investigate further. At this early stage of the project, we have not discovered anything of significance.



### Sustainability initiatives

Our vision is for Harapaki to be the most sustainable wind farm to be built in Aotearoa. We are working with all our construction partners to find ways to reduce the carbon footprint of the project. As an example, contractors are required to carpool to site and we have a no-idle policy for all vehicles on site. We're also segregating our waste to maximise reuse and recycling, and minimising water use. These are simple actions that collectively add up to make a difference - particularly if it helps to influence future behaviour.

If you have any queries about the project, please email us at [harapaki@meridianenergy.co.nz](mailto:harapaki@meridianenergy.co.nz).

Ngā mihi

**Robert Batters**

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