

Synergy supports development of WA's biggest wind farm

Western Australia's largest wind farm will be built near Merredin after WA's largest energy retailer, Synergy reached agreement with Collgar Wind Farm to purchase the renewable energy from the project.

Synergy Managing Director, Jim Mitchell, said he was delighted Synergy had negotiated an agreement which would help progress Western Australia's contribution to the national 20% renewable energy target.

"Synergy was instrumental in this wind farm being developed, by being the purchaser of all the renewable energy, and in addition, it complements our diverse and balanced portfolio of generation contracts."

"The 206MW facility will generate over 790,000 MWh of renewable energy a year, enough to power around 125,000 homes."

"Through this agreement, we are avoiding the emissions of 700,000 tonnes of CO₂, the equivalent of taking 160,000 cars off the road."

Mr Mitchell said preliminary earth works had commenced on site, with full construction due to commence in June 2010.

"Turbine installation will commence in January 2011, and the expected initial operation will commence in August 2011."

Mr Mitchell said the agreement maintained the important balance of meeting the environmental, economic and security of supply requirements of the state's energy needs.

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