

Project update

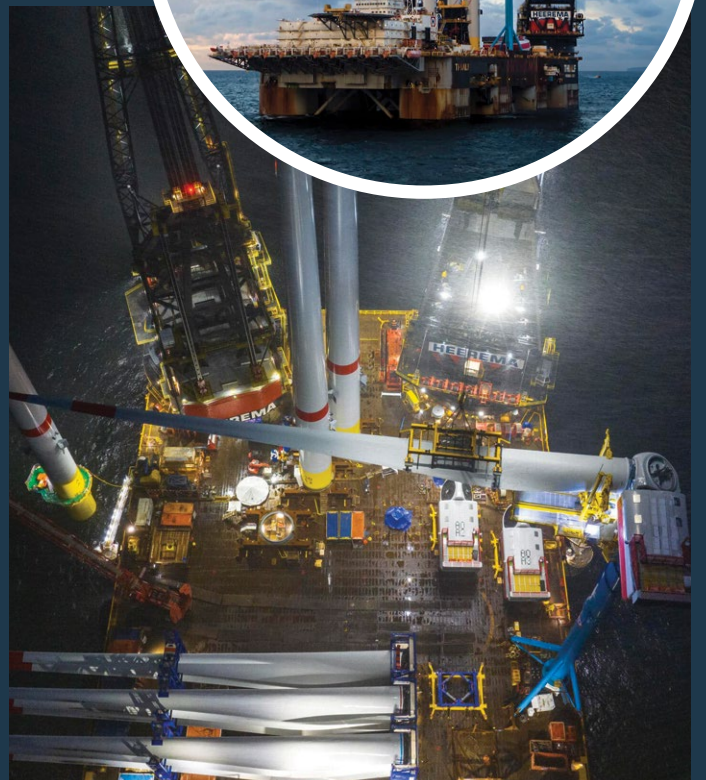
Progress is gathering speed for Blue Mackerel as we work to deliver one of Australia's first offshore wind projects. We've built up a strong local team, secured the first Management Plan approval under new regulations and completed the first phase of our geotechnical studies. Our long-term environmental studies were launched in July, including monitoring of whales and seabirds.

We're also developing our strategic plan for maximising local content – both jobs and suppliers. Already contributing to Victoria's economy, Blue Mackerel is set to generate long-term investment, jobs, and opportunities for local people and businesses.

As we move forward, we'll continue engaging with community every step of the way.

In this bulletin you'll learn about:

- Jobs, skills, and supplier opportunities
- Upcoming events
- What we've been working on
- Meet the team
- What's next?



Top left: Arcadis Ost 1 XXL r.100T monopiles ready for transportation

Top right: Pylons for the Arcadis Ost 1 project being transported on the installation vessel

Above left: A crane lifts turbine blades for the Arcadis Ost 1 project into place

Above right: Another view of turbine blades being lifted into position for the Arcadis Ost 1 project

(Images: JERA Nex bp)

Opportunities for suppliers

Our vision is to grow a strong Australian offshore wind supply chain. We've already identified a wide range of current and future work packages, including civil and mechanical works, cable installation, substation construction, and electrical systems.

Register your interest on ICN Gateway

Our Industry Capability Network (ICN) Gateway page is now live. Scan the QR code to view our full list open work packages and to register your interest in supplying Blue Mackerel.



Looking to local jobs, first

Our procurement approach follows the Victorian Government's **Local Jobs First Policy 2003** and **Social Procurement Framework**, which means more opportunities for local businesses, Aboriginal enterprises, and social enterprises.



Vessel preparing for geotechnical investigations
(Image: JERA Nex bp)

Did you know?

Around 80% of the operations and maintenance workforce is expected to be sourced locally. On top of that, 10% of total work hours during construction and operations will be delivered by apprentices, trainees and cadets.

Project phases

Delivering a project like Blue Mackerel calls for many different trades and skills across its various phases: development, construction, operations and maintenance, and eventually decommissioning.

Development (6-7 years) 2024-2030

For Blue Mackerel, this phase is already underway. It involves feasibility studies into technical, environmental and economic aspects of the project. Stakeholders and communities are consulted every step of the way. Feasibility studies and consultation are essential regulatory inputs for project approvals.

We are here



Construction (2-3 years) 2031-2033

Construction activities span manufacturing and installing wind turbines, substations, and offshore and onshore cables, as well as building the grid connection.



Operations and maintenance (35 years) 2033-2078

During this phase, turbines, substations, and cables are regularly serviced and maintained for safety, reliability and environmental protection. The wind project will be monitored remotely, with crews dispatched offshore for inspections and repairs.



Decommissioning (2 years) 2078-2080

At the end of its operating life, the project will be safely decommissioned. This will involve removing offshore infrastructure, recycling or repurposing components where possible.



Building a skilled workforce

Scaling up offshore wind requires a future-ready workforce. This means we're meeting immediate project needs while helping establish a long-term industry for Victoria.

Blue Mackerel is committed to creating meaningful employment opportunities for:

- Local workers and Priority Job Seekers
- First Nations peoples and Traditional Owners
- Apprentices, Trainees and Cadets

Keen to learn more? Find us at our upcoming events

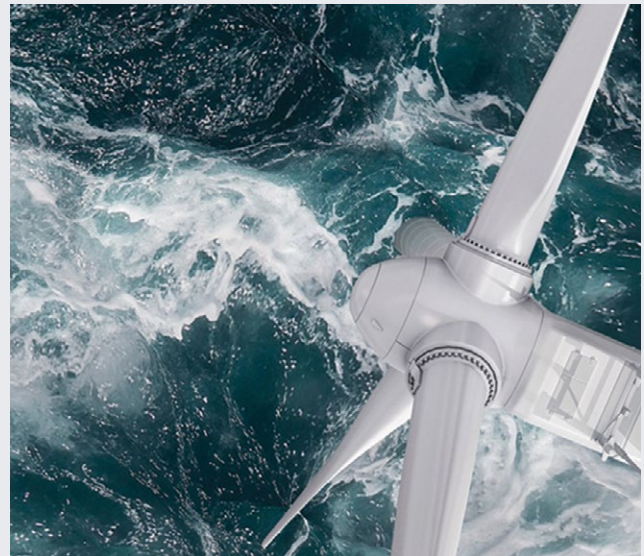
Upcoming events



Gippsland New Energy Conference (GNEC)

September 9-11
Traralgon Performing Arts Centre

Australia's largest regional energy event is back in Traralgon in September – and so are we! Our whole team will be on deck, so be sure to drop by our booth to ask questions, share your feedback, and learn how our project can create opportunities for local suppliers and businesses.



Global Wind Energy Council Asia Pacific Wind Energy Summit

September 16-18
Melbourne Convention Centre

Can't attend GNEC? Find us at the JERA Nex bp booth for all three days of the Global Wind Energy Council's APAC Wind Energy Summit in Melbourne.

On 17 September from 1:30pm-4:30pm, we're hosting a dedicated Suppliers Event on site to showcase Blue Mackerel. If you're interested in working with us, this will be a chance to meet the project team and discuss upcoming opportunities.

We have plenty more engagement to come, including our next round of Gippsland Offshore Wind Days – so keep an eye on our events page for the latest updates.



What we've been working on

In July we launched our two-year environmental monitoring program, a major milestone for the project. We're using a variety of methods to gather detailed information on how whales, dolphin, seabirds and other species use our feasibility licence area through the seasons.

Aerial surveys

Twice a month for the next two years, our marine mammal experts will fly transects across the Blue Mackerel Project area (and 50km out to sea) to document whales, dolphins, seals and large flocks of seabirds.

Passive Acoustic Monitoring systems (PAMs)

Underwater microphones, known as Passive Acoustic Monitoring systems (PAMs), are now listening 24/7 beneath the waves. They record whale and dolphin calls as well as background noise levels in the project area.



Above: Aerial survey plane before lift-off (Image: BMT/360° Aviation)

Left: PAMs deployment (Image: GHD)



Above: Control room of the Offshore Surveyor vessel that conducted the geophysical survey

Boat-based surveys

Every month, our seabird and marine mammal specialists also head out by boat to record species, populations and flight heights across the project area and buffer zones.

FLiDAR camera trial

We're trialling a daylight video camera on our Floating LiDAR buoy - the first of its kind in Australia for this purpose! AI software detects and tracks birds; ornithologists then identify species or groups. Because the camera records in all seasons and weather, it provides continuous insight into species presence, behaviour and flight heights.



Above: Australasian Gannet tracking (image: Blue Mackerel)

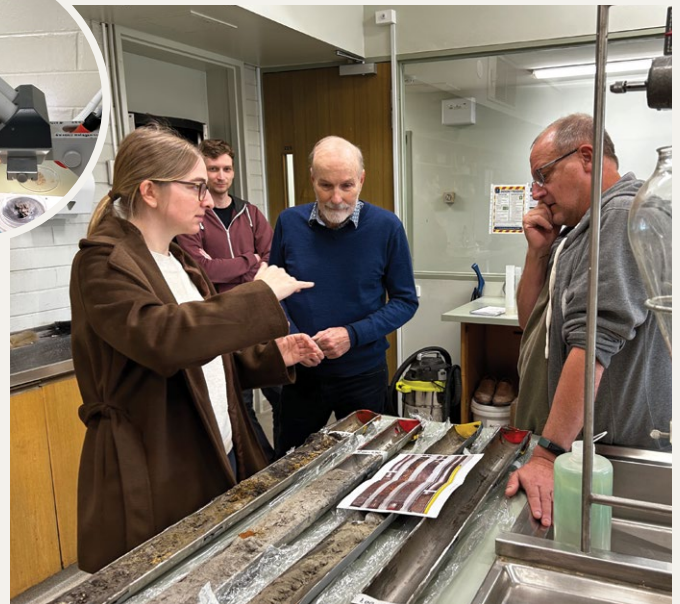
What are the findings used for?

Environmental protection is vitally important when we construct and operate a wind project. The data gathered from all these studies will be used to guide our responsible project design, help us identify and minimise potential impacts, and make sure we meet regulatory requirements. Our deployed metocean equipment will remain in place for the next 2 years.

Core samples studied at Melbourne University for OSL dating

At the end of June, core samples from our geotechnical survey were sent to the University of Melbourne for Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating. This technique helps scientists understand how long sediments have been buried, reaching much further back in time than the ~50,000 year limit of radiocarbon dating.

Members of our team had the privilege of visiting the university's lab to examine the samples firsthand and receive a briefing by our expert consultants.



Top left: Kim Downs (Environmental Planning & Approvals Manager) inspecting soil sediment under the microscope at Melbourne University (Image: Blue Mackerel)

Above: Alyssa Giavara (Foundation Package Engineer) John Webb from Latrobe University, Felix Lauer from Melbourne University, and Cosmos Coroneos from Cosmos Archaeology. with the core sample cross sections (Image: Blue Mackerel)

Gippsland Offshore Wind Days wrap-up

A big thanks to everyone – locals, visitors, and familiar faces from the industry – who joined us in Toora, Loch Sport, and Woodside for the latest round of Gippsland Offshore Wind Days in July. It was great to have our technical and environmental experts on deck to help answer questions, share our project updates and hear your thoughts.

We had conversations about:

- Our local area studies of marine mammals and the different protection measures that can be used during construction
- Visibility of wind projects from the beach, how some people believe they will spoil the natural views, whereas others see them as progress
- Project benefits ranging from new renewable energy sources for Victoria, new jobs and supplier opportunities, and local benefits programs
- How offshore wind projects are planned from construction through to decommissioning and recycling of materials
- Different ways locals want to be kept informed and have ongoing conversations with our team



What's next?

We look forward to carrying out more engagement with stakeholders and local communities in the coming months as we progress our engineering, site design, and environmental studies.



Meet the project team

Philip Beier

EPCI Director

Phil has been with Blue Mackerel since the very beginning in 2023. With more than 15 years' experience on offshore wind projects across Europe and the Asia-Pacific, he brings spades of experience in both development and construction.

He's worked with Tier 1 suppliers around the world on large-scale turbine and foundation manufacturing, giving him a unique understanding of how offshore wind can be made a reality in Australia.

At Blue Mackerel, Phil leads our technical team and oversees the development of the wind project – from early geophysical and geotechnical investigations through to turbine and cable layouts, component selection, and ultimately, construction.

Phil loves being out in nature and is a keen sports fan, with rugby union as his first love but also is learning to love AFL.



Did you know?

Offshore wind farms save much more carbon than they use to build.

That's because of their carbon payback period: the time it takes for a turbine to 'pay back' the emissions from its manufacture. For offshore wind, it's just 5 to 12 months, depending on variables like turbine type and location.

With a lifespan of 35 years (and up to 40 with the right maintenance), offshore turbines go on to generate decades of clean, low-emissions energy – long after their carbon 'debt' is paid off.



About JERA Nex bp

Blue Mackerel is being developed by JERA Nex bp, a 50:50 joint venture between JERA Co. and bp.

JERA Nex bp is among the world's largest offshore wind developers, with a global portfolio totalling 13GW in net potential generating capacity.

As one of the first recipients of an offshore wind feasibility licence, Blue Mackerel will play an important role in Australia's transition to a low emissions future.

We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people, the Traditional Owners of the land and waters where the proposed Blue Mackerel offshore wind project will be located. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

We aspire to a genuine partnership with the Gunaikurnai people that delivers mutual benefit and enhanced stewardship of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

We acknowledge the rights and responsibilities of all First Nations peoples for their lands and waters where we operate.



Get in touch

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