



**Press Release**

Thursday, November 06, 2008

**For Immediate Release**

# TrustPower opens Snowtown, Australia, windfarm

## Stage-I powered with 47 Suzlon S88 turbines

**Pune:** New Zealand based TrustPower Limited on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2008 held the official public opening of Stage 1 of its first Australian wind farm, located at Snowtown 170km north of Adelaide. The \$220 million project, using 47 Suzlon S88 turbines, is expected to produce in excess of 380 GWh of electricity each year, saving more than 345,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually, and powering the equivalent of 70,000 average Australian homes.

The public opening, which took the form of a community event with food and produce stalls, entertainment, displays and public wind farm bus tours, saw the unveiling of a commemorative plaque and permanent wind turbine blade and information display in Snowtown, by the Premier of South Australia the Honourable Mike Rann and TrustPower Chairman Mr Bruce Harker.

Other distinguished guests included the Federal Member for Grey Mr Rowan Ramsey, the State Member for Frome the Honourable Mr Rob Kerin, the Mayor of Wakefield Mr. James Maitland, Toine van Megen, Global CEO of Suzlon, Dan Hansen, CEO of Suzlon Energy Australia, and members of the TrustPower board and management team including Chief Executive Officer, Keith Tempest.

The Snowtown wind farm site spreads more than 20km along the Hummocks and Barunga ranges, allowing for significant future expansion and is equipped with 47 Suzlon S88 wind turbines to produce a peak output of 98.7 MW. The Suzlon wind turbines have a rotor diameter of 88 metres and a tower height of 80m.

Construction of Stage 1 of the Snowtown Windfarm involved 350 escorted truck journeys from Adelaide, the use of 7km of high tension cables for anchor footings, 5000 cubic metres of concrete, 8,000 tonne of steel for towers, 27km of underground cable and 18km of overhead 33kv power line, with 15,000 tonnes total weight of cargo transported to the site.

Suzlon Energy Australia took up the project on a turnkey EPC basis and completed it on time and within budget.

TrustPower Chief Executive Keith Tempest says the opening of the Snowtown Wind Farm marks another important milestone for TrustPower, which has a portfolio of 100 percent sustainable hydro and wind generation facilities.

"We are proud of our investments in sustainable generation in New Zealand, which includes 35 hydro facilities and the country's largest wind farm, plus plans for two



further hydro facilities and two further wind farms now having been granted resource consents. We see this as the first of what we hope will be significant further investments in Australian wind energy, the income from which will complement that from New Zealand and provide increased income security in times of difficult economic or climatic conditions, as well as making a worthwhile contribution to combating emissions induced climate change".

"The wind farm will help develop a positive new image for the town," said the Chairperson of the Snowtown Community Management Committee, Paul McCormack.

"The local community has taken a strong interest in the project, and appreciates it being named the Snowtown Wind Farm," Mr McCormack said. "It's a good news story for this community."

Mr McCormack is particularly enthusiastic about the 44 metre wind turbine blade which is on permanent display in the middle of town. "It is a fantastic tourist attraction and it allows people to stop off in Snowtown and get a sense of the turbines up close."

Mr McCormack, who has one of turbines on his land, said lightheartedly: "Every morning I walk to the chook house to collect an egg for breakfast, and I look up at my turbine on the hill to ensure that it's still spinning. I think it's a beautiful beast, and it makes me greener and greener each day."

While addressing the gathering, Suzlon's Global CEO, Toine van Megen said that the Australia market is a focus market for Suzlon and congratulated the Australian Suzlon Team for delivering the project in time and within budget and to the entire satisfaction of TrustPower.

"Suzlon is committed to the Australian market for the long term and we look forward to realising more projects with TrustPower. I congratulate the Snowtown community with the wholehearted support that they have given to TrustPower and Suzlon. Without your support this project would not have been realised. Suzlon is in Australia for the long term and we are happy to do our part in creating a sustainable and green environment in Australia through our products and services".

Mr. Dan Hansen, CEO of Suzlon Australia thanked TrustPower for the close and open cooperation between the two companies throughout the construction of the project and thanked the local community of Snowtown for their support and participation, which we trust will continue through the long term operation, service and maintenance of the wind farm.

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\* BTM Consult ApS – World Market Update 2007

#### **About Suzlon Energy Limited**

Suzlon Energy Limited is one of the world's leading players in wind energy. The company has come to the fore of the business by strategically focusing on R&D, innovation, an integrated value chain, and entering into emerging and high growth markets to drive sustainable growth.

Suzlon has its corporate offices in Pune, India. The company's global spread reflects in its projects and markets portfolio - extending across Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, and the United States.

Suzlon's R&D effort includes a highly successful practice of leveraging skill and knowledge pools in the industry and allied areas the world over. This has resulted in a R&D network located across geographies known for their leadership in the field – Suzlon today drives turbine development from India and Germany,



and aerodynamics research in the Netherlands. Suzlon matches innovation with quality, with systems certified by Det Norske Veritas (DNV) to ISO 9001:2000 standards.

Suzlon is a vertically integrated wind turbine manufacturer – with manufacturing capability along the full value chain – ranging from components to complete wind turbine systems. The company has established manufacturing facilities in India, China and the United States, to support the global spread of its operations. The company currently has a combined manufacturing base of 2,700 MW of annual capacity, and is undertaking an aggressive expansion program to expand its base to 5,700 MW of capacity in FY2008-09.

The success of the company's strategy is seen in its growing market share, repeat orders, and breakthroughs into new markets. Suzlon ranked as the world's fifth leading wind turbine manufacturer with over 10.5 % of global market share in 2007. The company has ranked as the leading manufacturer in the Indian market for nine consecutive years, maintaining over 50% market share.

Suzlon's true strength is seen not only in its technology, quality and market share – but also its people. The Suzlon Group boasts one of the largest teams in the wind energy business, totaling over 13,000 people from over a dozen nationalities in operations around the world. Suzlon in its vision for future growth aims to rank among the top three wind turbine manufacturers worldwide, maximizing growth while maintaining margins to generate maximum value for all stakeholders. You can view more information on Suzlon at [www.suzlon.com](http://www.suzlon.com).

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