

Cyclone Proof Wind Turbines For WA

Western Australian Energy Minister Francis Logan announced that three state-of-the-art, cyclone-proof wind turbines are to be built at Coral Bay. The 275 kW turbines are expected to supply 40 per cent of Coral Bay's energy needs by the end of 2007. Logan says the \$9.6 million wind-diesel project would involve new technologies developed in WA. "The power system will use Verve Energy's technologically advanced control systems and low-load diesel generators which maximise the use of wind energy," he said. "It will also involve the use of wind turbines that can be lowered in the event of a cyclone. This will be the first large-scale application of its kind in Australia and has good potential to be used in other cyclone-affected areas." The Minister said the project would be jointly funded by Verve Energy and the Commonwealth-funded Renewable Remote Power Generation Project (RRPGP). "Verve Energy will build the power system and contribute \$6.8 million to the project," he said. "Financial assistance of up to \$2.76 million has been committed through the RRPGP."

[Source esaa news]