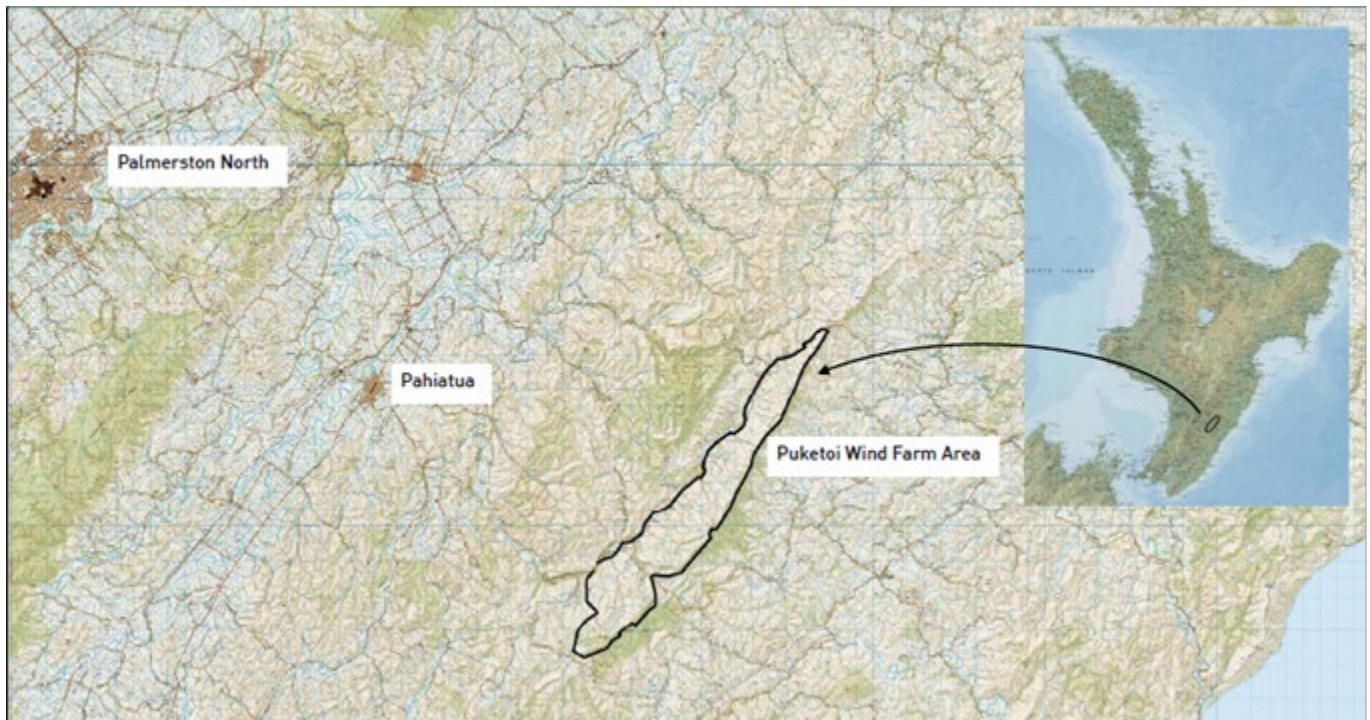


# Puketoi Wind Farm Project Details and Status



## SITE DETAILS

This is a great site for a wind farm:

- **good, consistent wind resource** - Puketoi is an incredible wind generation site, one of the best in New Zealand. We've monitored the site since the consent was granted, and found utilisation factors potentially in excess of 50%. As a comparison, using equivalent wind turbine technology, the Turitea and Waipipi wind farms, which also have very high quality wind resource, have expected efficiencies of 45% and 39% respectively.
- **location** – it's close to Mercury's Turitea Wind Farm, and the Turitea Wind Farm transmission line and substations effectively provide the first c.12km of the necessary transmission infrastructure to connect Puketoi to the National Grid at Linton
- **the site** - mainly farmland, and in an area with sufficient road access to support construction and long-term maintenance activities

## PROJECT STATUS

This project was initially consented in 2013, but circumstances largely beyond Mercury's control have led to a pause in starting construction on this wind farm.

Following the original consent, the supply/demand balance of the national electricity market was impacted by the global financial crisis, and the Christchurch earthquakes. More recently national demand has risen along with the appetite to decarbonise the New Zealand economy through building new renewables.

In a project of this size and complexity, years of planning are not unusual, while we wait for an investment environment that gives us the certainty we need to proceed.

There may not be diggers on site yet, but we're doing a lot of work towards this wind farm, including:

- ecological and water quality baseline monitoring (including surface water, bird and bat surveys).
- technical discussions with wind turbine manufacturers on turbine choice, suitability and costs.
- detailed transport requirements for delivering long blades and other loads to site
- site investigation works
- development of design

