

Wind turbines are shipped in

HEPBURN Wind's turbines arrived on the Singapore-registered boat, SE Panthea, at Appleton Dock in Melbourne last week sparking the start of the final construction phase of its Leonard's Hill project.

The SE Panthea left the port of Brake in Germany in early December carrying the two nacelles, two hubs and six blades.

The chairman of Hepburn Wind, Simon Holmes a Court, said the arrival of the turbine components was a major milestone for the nearly 1600 members of Hepburn Wind.

"Some of our members have been waiting for six years for this day, and to know that the turbines have safely landed in Melbourne is a big relief," he said.

The towers' sections are nearing completion in Portland and various electrical equipment is being assembled in

Sunshine, Benalla and Adelaide.

Mr Holmes a Court said Hepburn Wind had spent more than \$2 million with companies in regional Victoria and more than 3500 person-hours have been spent preparing the site to date.

"Currently there are no turbine factories in Australia, however we expect that the growing demand for wind turbines will result in a growing proportion of local content for future projects," he said.

The project will come together relatively quickly now with the turbines expected to be erected in the next two months.

Electricity grid integration works are scheduled to take about two months following erection and the wind farm is expected to begin generating clean electricity into the local grid around the middle of the year.