

Student Guide

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@Stake Energy Edition — Student Guide
The Wattle Ridge Project

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ABOUT THIS GUIDE

A decision-making simulation about stakeholder perspectives, evidence and the consequences of renewable-energy development.



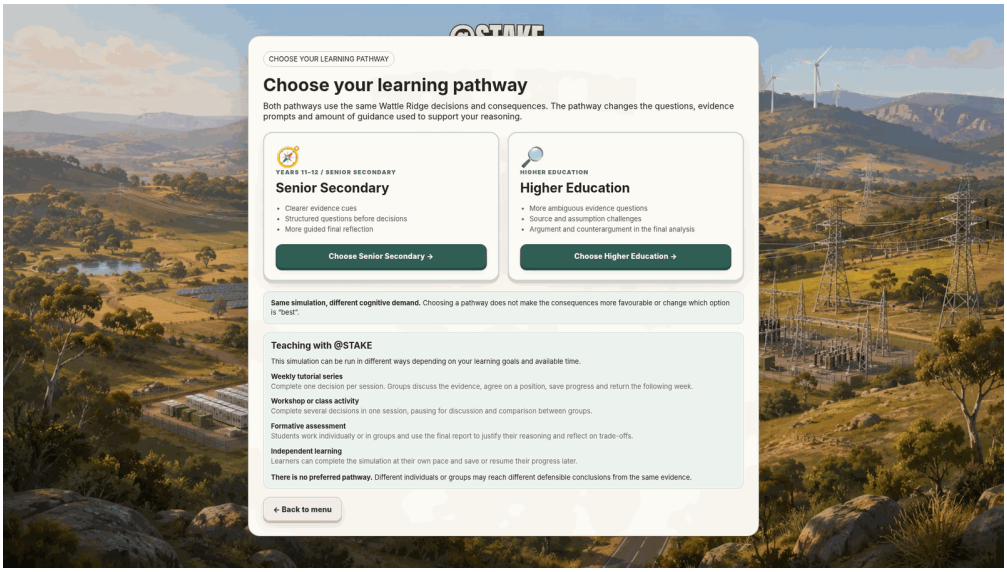
Your role

You are part of the Wattle Ridge project decision-making process. Across six linked decisions, you will weigh proposals for renewable energy development and consider effects on the community, landholders, Custodians, the developer, the environment and regional interests. Every option involves benefits, costs and uncertainty.

What you will practise

- Recognising different stakeholder interests and priorities.
- Weighing evidence, uncertainty and competing claims.
- Explaining trade-offs and defending your decisions.
- Noticing immediate, delayed and cumulative consequences.

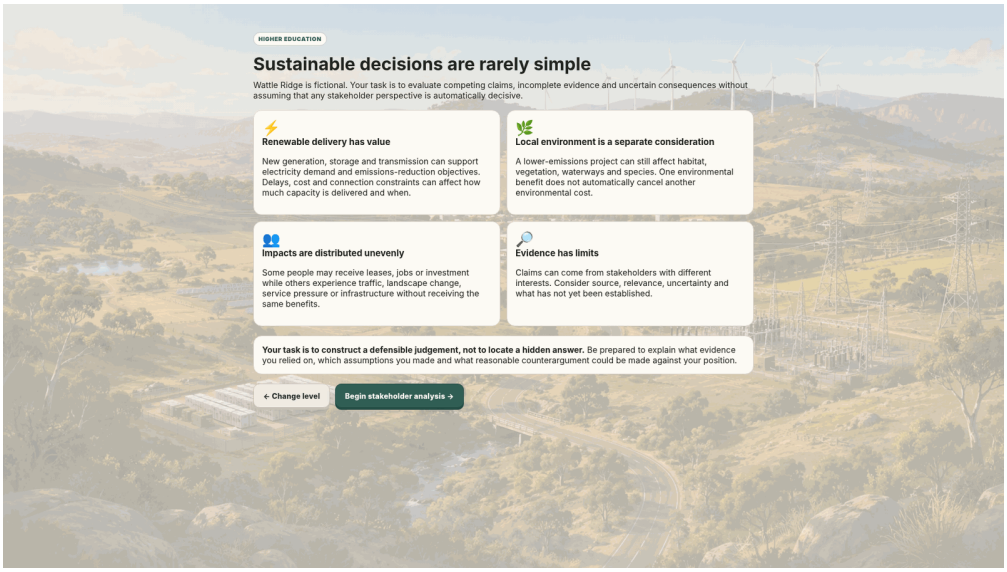
GETTING STARTED



Choose Senior Secondary or Higher Education. Both pathways use the same Wattle Ridge decisions and consequences, but the questions and level of guidance differ.

Before the first decision

- Choose your learning pathway and enter a first name, initials or group name.
- Read the pre-simulation briefing, exaproject the stakeholder groups and make your initial prediction.
- If working in a group, agree on how you will discuss and record each choice.
- Use the stakeholder analysis to notice where interests may align, where they may conflict, and which claims you would want to verify.



THE DECISION CYCLE

Each of the six decisions follows a similar process. Use all available information before selecting an option.

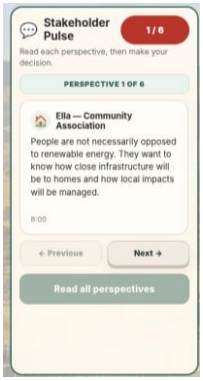
1 Explore the map

Select numbered locations to examine the proposed energy infrastructure, nearby homes, land uses, environmental areas and existing connections.



2 Read the Stakeholder Pulse

Review every available perspective for the decision rather than stopping at the first familiar or persuasive opinion.

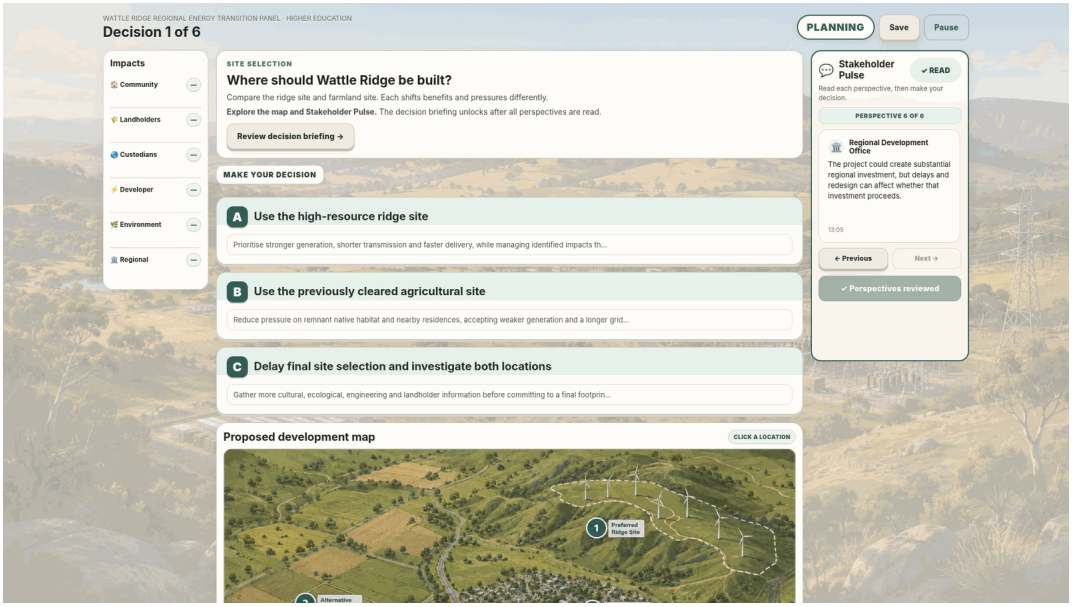


3 Open the Decision Briefing

Identify the key problem, supporting evidence, uncertainty and the critical question before you choose.

4 Compare options and decide

Ask what each option gains, what it risks, whose priorities it supports and what may become difficult to reverse. Discuss your reasoning before submitting.



The six Wattle Ridge decisions

1 Consider the proposed development site and its alternatives.

2 Weigh the needs of nearby communities and landholders.

3 Examine how project benefits and costs are shared.

4 Respond to new evidence and stakeholder concerns.

5 Assess pressures on infrastructure and the environment.

6 Make a final judgement about the project’s direction.

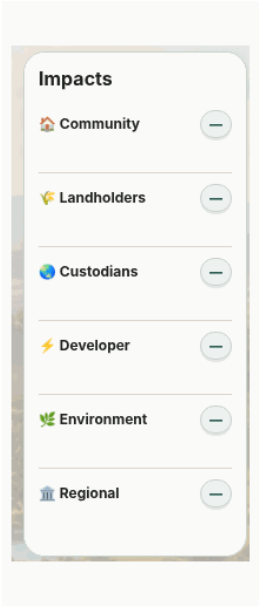
Remember

The simulation provides evidence and consequences. You provide the judgement. There is no hidden “perfect” pathway.

AFTER EACH DECISION

5 Look for consequences

Some effects appear immediately and others emerge later. Read changes in the impact indicators and Stakeholder Pulse to see how decisions reshape the Wattle Ridge system.



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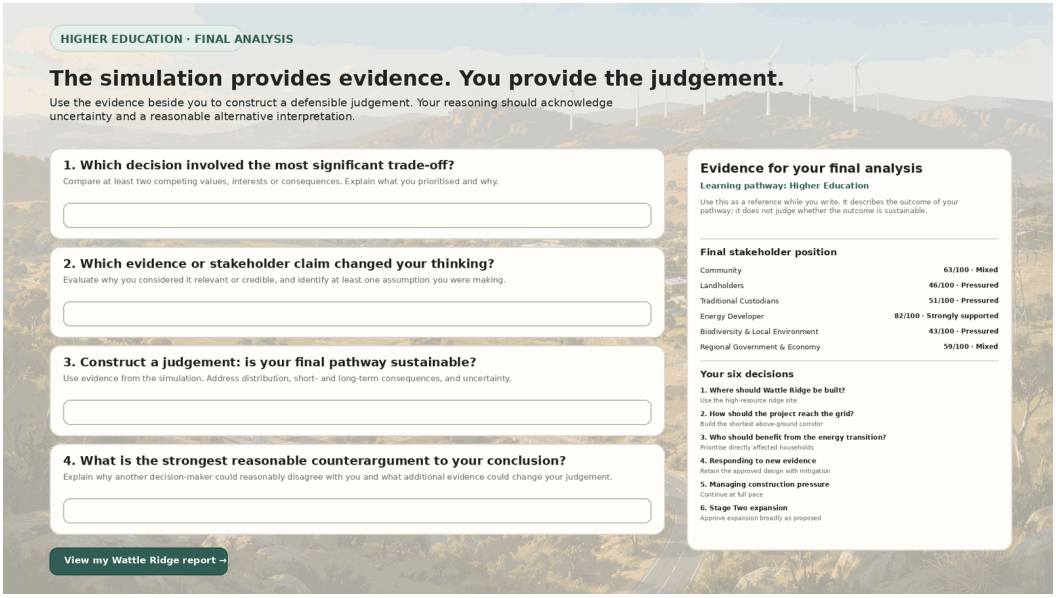
6 Reflect and move forward

Do not judge a decision only by whether one group benefited. Consider fairness, evidence, trade-offs, uncertainty and longer-term impacts.

Useful questions

- What evidence influenced us the most?
- Whose perspective did we initially overlook?
- What assumption are we making?
- What would we change if new evidence emerged?

YOUR FINAL ANALYSIS



The final analysis brings together your reasoning and choices throughout the Wattle Ridge project.

Use your report to explain - not just describe

- Identify a decision you would defend and the evidence behind it.
- Discuss one compromise or trade-off that was difficult.
- Find an unexpected or delayed consequence and explain why it matters.
- Name a stakeholder perspective that changed your thinking.
- Explain what information or evidence you would investigate further.

Final challenge

Would you make the same decisions again? What would you keep, change or investigate further - and why?