



## Business Arising from Previous Minutes

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Minutes of CCC held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023, were finalised and emailed to members on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

## Action Items from Previous Meeting

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Item	Issue	Responsibility
1	How many solar panels equal one turbine BJ sort further information from JAb as it was a broad request. Decided that it would be 1ha or solar panels = how many turbines. BJ took on notice.	BJ Held over
2	Include Boorowa in the location of the project on its website Complete 4/7/23.	LD

No other business arising.

## Correspondence Report

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**Correspondence as sent out with the meeting notice on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 with one additional item:**

- 4/7/23– Email to members with the draft minutes for review.
- 4/7/23 - Email to members advising that the project website has been amended to include Boorowa in the location.
- 12/7/23 - Email to members with the finalised minutes.
- 6/11/23 - Email to members with the meeting notice & agenda for this CCC.
- 14/6/23 – Email to members with confirmation of the venue for this CCC.
- 8/12/23 - Email to members with reminder for this meeting.

**Accepted.**

### General discussions around table, while BJ was out of room on a site matter

JAb discussed the proposed Yass Solar Farm: Link: [Yass Solar Farm | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/planning-and-environment) LA confirmed that whilst Solar Farms are SSDs they usually do not have CCCs.

TS commented on the number of solar panels being installed in the Bendigo area. This is apparently as a result of the transmission and infrastructure availability.

TS heard that South Australia has to import energy from out of state to have a stable energy supply in their network.

GF commented that he is trying to obtain a battery for his property and has telephoned 4 businesses to date. Suggestions provided.

## Project Update – Squadron Energy

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BJ presented the project update.

- The Community Enhancement Fund for the Hilltops Council has awarded funds (see further details below).

- The outage reported at the last meeting has been resolved and operations are back on line. The cable issue at the substation was resolved.
- Bango has partnered with Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (near Mudgee) to participate in an ABC interview of one of the company's staff members who came from a coal mining background to the renewable industry. Kaycee Milnes – link: [Clean energy industry a drawcard for women formerly in the mining industry - ABC News](#)
- 46 turbines are operational after the outage with full operation on 18<sup>th</sup> July when they received energisation.
- Turbine 6 did not come back online due to a main gearbox issue.
- JP advised that one turbine is not spinning at the moment. BJ advised that it is having its annual maintenance undertaken, which should take 3-4 days, pending weather.
- JP enquired whether the site was impacted by the power outage in the district. BJ confirmed that it didn't affect the operation of the project.
- JA enquired whether there were any lightning strikes with BJ responding – no.
- JA advised that Rye Parke had their met-mast hit. BJ commented that this is often a common occurrence.
- GF asked if spare parts are kept on site. GS/BJ advised that the contractor manages that side of things and they are strongly encouraged to have sub components on site. GE have a central warehouse, major components are kept in their rather than the wind farm warehouse. There were delays in getting parts during COVID.
- TS enquired – what would happen if you break a blade and have to have one shipped. BJ advised that they would have to apply for the necessary overmass/oversize permits for delivery to site.
- JA asked how many TV reception issues has Bango had to rectify. BJ advised that 5 local residences. Further that this had been an interesting development as the study undertaken indicated that they should not have been impacted. However, Bango is happy to work with residents in rectifying any issues.
- GF commented on an anomaly on the BOM rain maps on its app, stating that the blade flickering shows up as light rain.
- BJ showed the CCC how to access the Open Platform for National Electricity Market Data website, which provides information on the National Electricity Market (NEM) data for renewable energy. Link: [OpenNEM: New South Wales](#)

### Community Enhancement Fund – Hilltops Council

BJ provided an update on the assessment and awarding of grants through the Bango Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund (Hilltops Council).

- 17 applications received and 16 approved a total of \$73,450.
- Yass Council's CEF is yet to be finalised.
- JA asked whether the Bango project was still giving money as well. BJ responded yes – toy raffle, Ex-Services Club, Binalong Golf Tournament, Rural Womens Day in Young, etc.

**Link to Hilltops Council CEF:** [Bango Wind Farm Enhancement Fund - Hilltops Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

BJ advised that they have been working with the media; with an interview by Wal Archer: [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/squadronenergy\\_our-host-landowners-wal-archer-activity-7131050828525682688-VCh3](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/squadronenergy_our-host-landowners-wal-archer-activity-7131050828525682688-VCh3)

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Discussions on a bushfire near the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm and the effective management by the Rural Fire Service. JA enquired whether there was a fire fighting unit on site. BJ advised that the site is managed in accordance with its Emergency Response Plan. Staff are not trained fire fighters, so Squadron Energy's role is to safely remove staff from the area and leave it to the professionals to manage the fire. JA asked if vehicles had fire extinguishers in their vehicles. BJ stated that during

construction they did. Risk Assessments and Scope of Works are carried out on a daily basis to mitigate any safety issues.

## General Business

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- JA enquired where Bango were up to with CASA in relation to the red lights on top of the turbines. BJ advised that they are still in discussions, however, indicated that it may need more input from the community to assist in gaining a suitable outcome.
- Discussions on the Biala Wind Farm and their proposal to offer roof top solar panels to residents within 4 kms of its project. JA suggested that this would be a good initiative for Bango as well to help with its social licence as well. **Action: BJ to investigate if this was a condition of the Biala Wind Farm consent.**

*Postscript: Question after the closure of the meeting from Jayne Apps: She has heard that there has been 5 eagle strikes as a result of hitting blades. Can Bango please confirm? Action: BJ to clarify reporting requirements for bird and bat monitoring.*

## Next Meeting

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It was decided to hold an annual meeting in 2024; deciding on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024**, commencing at 10am. Venue to be confirmed.

LA advised that an extra-ordinary meeting may always be held if something arises. Agreed.

***Meeting closed at 12.39pam with LA thanking all attendees for their contribution throughout 2024 and wishing all a happy festive season and safe 2024..***

***Following the meeting, members were invited to stay for a BBQ, which was arranged by Bango through the Lions Club.***

## Action Items

Item	Issue	Responsibility
1	How many solar panels equal one turbine	BJ
2	Investigate whether the Biala Wind Farm initiative to supply residents with roof top solar panels is a condition if its consent.	BJ
3	BJ to clarify reporting requirements for bird and bat monitoring.	BJ