

Tuesday, 22 February 2022 at Pyramul Hall, Pyramul
(12.15 pm)

Attendees	Initials	Position
David Johnson	DJ	Independent Chairperson
Owain Rowland-Jones	ORJ	Community Member
Max Price	MP	Community Member
Dr Robert Sanderson	RS	Community Member
Andrew Hundy	AH	Community Member
Dan Cove	DC	Bathurst Regional Council Alternate
Brad Jachmann	BJ	CWP Renewables
Mike Maguire	MM	CWP Renewables

Observers:
None

Apologies:
None

Item	Details and Actions
1.0 Welcome and Introductions	<i>Meeting opened at 12.15pm.</i> David Johnson introduced himself as the new Chair of the CCC and provided information on his background and experience, as well as details of other CCCs he chairs. All present introduced themselves around the table.
2.0 Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting is being held and paid respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.
3.0 Declarations of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
4.0 Correspondence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Email from Bathurst Reg Council to DJ advising that Alan Cattermole (Dir. Cultural & Community Services) will be Council's contact representative for the CCC, but will not be able to attend on 22/2/22. Mid-Western Regional Council (21/2/22) – advising that Council's representative on the CCC will be Clr Paul Cavalier. DJ had attempted to notify him that this meeting was being held today, and will try to contact him again.

5.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

- It was noted that the last meeting of the CCC was held on 18 May 2021 and that Covid issues had led to the long break prior to the current meeting. It was also noted that the previous Chairperson, Mike Silver, has resigned from that position and David Johnson was recently appointed by the DPIE. There were no comments made regarding the previous minutes.
- **Business Arising**
AH noted that, in relation to Action 17 in the previous minutes, he has not been provided with the distance of his second residence (HER07) to the nearest turbine. CWP to provide this (BJ). AH would prefer to be given the actual distance to the closest turbine rather than the GPS co-ordinates.

<p>6.0 Proponent's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BM presented the proponent's report – a copy will be attached to the minutes. • CWP have been providing power to the grid since December 2020 by various numbers of turbines. • All 37 turbines are now operational and testing is currently underway (this includes independent noise testing by Sonus). All turbines have now had their initial testing completed. • ORJ commented that Sonus were found to be quite unsatisfactory by most locals in the management of their earlier noise investigations. • AH questioned the location of one noise monitor in his area and would like to know why it is positioned there? BJ to check with Sonus & CWP to determine why the monitor is in that position. • BJ noted that there have been some minor problems with turbines and blades, including an accident at the port of Newcastle when a blade was destroyed and had to be replaced with a new one from Spain, which caused a significant delay. • The operation of turbines was discussed. BJ noted that turbines only turn due to wind; they are not powered to turn. If they are turning slowly they are not generating power – they need to reach a certain speed before they can connect to the grid and generate power. • ORJ noted that often when there is no wind at ground level, the turbines are turning strongly because of the wind at that height. He also asked if the turbines can be powered to turn, but that is not the case (BJ, RS). • AH noted that when his house is directly downwind of the two nearest turbines, the sound can be heard inside his house. ORJ has similar experiences, as does his son who also lives nearby. • ORJ noted that his neighbour (who has a neighbour agreement with CWP) has had part of his land significantly de-valued because of visual impacts from turbines, and also suffers from noise impacts particularly at night.
<p>7.0 Other Agenda Items</p>	<p>None</p>

8.0 General Business

- AH noted that the tenant in his Hill End Rd house suffers from noise impacts at night which affects his sleep.

Questions from Owain R-J

- How many employees are currently on-site? Now up to 7, mainly in maintenance & repair of the turbines (technically trained) (BJ)
- ORJ asked about on-going environmental studies, and noted that he and other farmers in the area are concerned for the long term protection of the environment. Have there been problems from the extremely heavy rains in the area recently? BJ replied that they have avoided any serious problems and the rehabilitation of disturbed areas has been good, no erosion or similar problems.
- Protected species, such as the Purple Pea and some Acacia species – what monitoring and management is being done? BJ will take that on notice and report back.
- Re the off-set land on Hill End Rd – what is the status? (within Bathurst Council). BJ said the Biodiversity Conservation Trust have inspected the site and are currently reviewing the proposal.
- What monitoring of avian impacts (bat and bird strike)? Is this on-going. BJ replied there have been monthly inspections. ORJ requested the data and numbers relating to this work.
- ORJ noted that he has not seen a wedge-tailed eagle since the turbines commenced is concerned. BJ reported that he has definitely seen them in the area. ORJ has noticed less birds in his garden.
- Koala observations – what monitoring is being done? BJ said they have photographed some recently. BJ to check and respond.
- Social impacts – asked about the Christmas hams which were offered to landowners and not accepted – BJ & MM replied that they were donated to Vinnies.
- ORJ asked about PPAs (power purchase agreements) and noted that some have been signed with different parties. What percentage of power capacity is now signed up in PPAs. BJ to find out and report back.
- CWP site compound – are the two water tanks to be retained? – Yes they are to be left at the request of the landowner.
- ORJ referred to the Aneroid website and the information available on it was discussed.
- ORJ asked if there was any intention at this stage to add more turbines in the 'gap' between the north & south clusters of the current turbines? BJ said there was no current intention but he could not speak for future intentions. BJ to ask the question within CWP and report back.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there any intention by CWP to install storage batteries at any of their windfarms? There was a plan to install a storage battery at some stage at the proposed Ungula wind farm; BJ not aware of any other intentions but will ask the question internally. • What is the likely future of RECs (Renewable Energy Certs)? – This is uncertain, but RS believes they still have about 6 years to run; he thinks the focus for subsidies & govt support will be on batteries and storage in future. • AH asked if CWP have a policy on weed control by involved landowners. • AH asked who is the CWP contact person for issues relating to the offset block on Hill End Rd. BJ replied that he is the contact person. • DC (Bathurst Council) mentioned that a group at Hill End were planning a major community event in October, and wondered if CWP might consider some financial assistance? BJ said he would take the question on board.
<p>10.0 Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that, unless there was a particular need, we should hold the next meeting in about 6 months. However any replies to questions on notice, or other information, can be distributed to members in the meantime. • The date for the next meeting was selected as <u>Tuesday 30 August 2022, at 10 am</u>, unless there is a need to change that.

Meeting closed at 2.00 pm

DJ thanked all present for their attendance.

Action Items:

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Provide actual distance from AH's second residence on Hill End Rd (HER07) to the nearest turbine.	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022
2	AH requested to know why the noise monitor in his area is in the current position. Sonus to respond.	BJ AWAITING RESPONSE
3	What monitoring and management is being carried out for protected plant species such as Purple Pea & some Acacias (ORJ).	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022
4	CWP to provide data from the monitoring of avian species, particularly numbers of bat and bird strike (ORJ).	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022

5	CWP to investigate monitoring results and provide data on koala numbers and observations (ORJ).	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022
6	What percentage of the wind farm's power capacity is now signed up in PPAs ? (ORJ).	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022
7	Is there any intention to add more turbines in future in the area between the north and south clusters ? (ORJ) – BJ said there is no current intention, but he could not speak for the future. CWP to respond.	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022
8	Is there any intention by CWP to install storage batteries at this or any of their wind farms (other than at Ungula) (ORJ).	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022
9	Would CWP consider some financial support to the Hill End group planning a major community event in October? (DC) To be raised internally by CWP.	BJ COMPLETED 10/08/2022

Meeting Minutes Approved

David Johnson
Independent Chair
Date: 10 August 2022