



MINUTES OF CRUDINE RIDGE WIND FARM COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC)

Tuesday 14 February 2023 at Pyramul Hall, Pyramul
(10.05 am)

Attendees	Initials	Position
David Johnson	DJ	Independent Chairperson
Owain Rowland-Jones	ORJ	Community Member
Dr Robert (Buzz) Sanderson	RS	Community Member
Max Price	MP	Community member
Mike McGuire	MM	CWP Renewables

Observers: None

Apologies: Alan Cattermole	AC	Bathurst Regional Council
Robert Taylor	RT	Mayor, Bathurst Council
Ben Deer	BD	CWP Renewables
Paul Cavalier	PC	Mid-Western Council

Item	Details and Actions
1.0 Welcome and Introductions	<i>Meeting opened at 10.05am.</i> David Johnson welcomed those present, and noted the apologies he had received.
2.0 Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair acknowledged the Wiradjuri people, 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There was no formal correspondence to record

<p>5.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that the last meeting of the CCC was held on 6 September 2022. There were no comments made regarding the previous minutes. <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. It was noted that the noise monitoring results from prior to the last meeting were on the website, and the more recent ones are with the Department (DPE), and those results should be available on the website very soon. MM to check and follow up. MP noted that he understands some landowners are receiving noise when they were previously told they would not. • 2. CWP contacted the Rylstone & District Environmental Society to offer a site visit and inspection, but the offer has not been taken up yet.
<p>6.0 Proponent's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All construction and commissioning works are now complete and official commencement following commissioning was on 7 April 2022; • MM noted that one of the turbines has been stopped due to lightning damage, and is still awaiting repair to blade damage; • Bird and bat strike monitoring by consultants is continuing as required – annually for the first 2 years, then to be reviewed by DPE based on the results; Year 2 report due Aug 2023; data is available on the website; • Some brake noise is being rectified on one or two turbines (relates to directional turning, not blades); repairs are by GE under the maintenance contract; the second annual maintenance will be in April. • No recent complaints received; last one was from Heather George on Crudine Rd, relating to noise.
<p>7.0 Other Agenda Items</p>	<p>None</p>

8.0 General Business

- MM advised that CWP has been acquired by Squadron Energy (Australian owned, by Andrew & Nicola Forest) and will be officially re-branded in March;
- ORJ asked what is the total downtime caused by breakdowns & repairs ? MM replied only 1 or 2% overall;
- MP asked what is being done about weed control on offset blocks – MM replied that CWP have taken on management of the offset land and have been given a list of actions to undertake in the next year, including weed management, track maintenance, etc.
- MP and ORJ asked about what social & community funding is currently happening ? MM noted that the major part is through the VPA's (voluntary planning agreements) between the Company and the two Councils. It comprises approx. \$120,000 to MW Council and \$40,000 to Bathurst, per annum. Actual details of how the funding is allocated are determined by the Councils, not CWP. **ACTION ITEM 1** – DJ to request details of funding expenditure by the two Councils, from the VPA monies.
- CWP also separately provides some sponsorship monies to community and sporting groups etc.
- ORJ asked if there are likely to be any changes in management from the new ownership by Squadron Energy – MM replied that there are no changes expected to the day to day management of the wind farm;
- ORJ noted recent reports of problems with turbines due to the increase in size of towers and blades ? It apparently applies to both GE and Vestas company turbines. MM said the increase in size means that more maintenance is required, particularly relating to bearing pressures.
- MM also noted that at the end of the life of the turbines, the company will need to determine whether they are to be refurbished and retained or dismantled and removed.
- ORJ asked if the recent summer heavy rains have led to further impacts on roads and tracks etc ? MM – only minor damage and repairs required.
- ORJ noted that vegetation issues are continuing – Sefton Bush (or Bidy Bush) is spreading rapidly,

	<p>particularly on land with absentee owners, like 'Greenhills'. Some host owners who receive payments for the turbines on their properties are not spending the monies they receive on things like weed control. MM noted that the Company is required control weeds in a 50m radius of any disturbed land (around turbines, tracks etc), however it is understood that Sefton Bush is a native, not a weed. MP - Slashing is beneficial in reducing but not eliminating Sefton Bush.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ORJ – some areas containing the endangered 'Purple Pea' and an Acacia along Aarons Pass Road were to be protected (some were removed and transplanted by CWP and had a good success rate of around 50-60%). ORJ asked about the monitoring and assessment – monitoring done during first year of translocation, now completed. The Purple Pea was within Transgrid's trans line footprint 'no-go zones' and no individuals were harmed. • ACTION ITEM 2 – MM to advise where the results of the monitoring and assessment of the endangered species (as required under the EPBC Act) can be found – ie which website.
<p>10.0 Next Meeting</p>	<p>The date for the next meeting was selected as <u>Tuesday 15 August 2023, at 10 am</u>, unless there is a good reason to change that.</p>

Meeting closed at 10.59am

DJ thanked all present for their attendance.

Action Items:

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	What information can be provided by the two Councils about the community funding by CWP through the VPA arrangements ?	DJ
2	Where are the results of the endangered species monitoring and assessment available to CCC members and the public ?	MM

David Johnson
Independent Chair