

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

Tuesday15 August 2023 at Pyramul Hall, Pyramul (10.15 am)

Attendees	Initials	Position
David Johnson	DJ	Independent Chairperson
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
Owain R-Jones ORJ Community Member

Item	Details and Actions	
1.0 Welcome and Introductions	Meeting opened at 10.15am.  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	None.	
4.0 Correspondence	<ul> <li>The Chair noted email correspondence from Mid-Western Council on 21/4/23 and Bathurst Council on 26/4/23 relating to the allocation of VPA funding monies, in reply to the Chair's emails of 26/3/23 requesting the information. The emails were forwarded to CCC members on 25/5/23.</li> <li>The Chair also noted correspondence from the DPE re the newly released CCC Guideline, and details of changes required to the operation of CCCs, which were outlined.</li> </ul>	

## 5.0 Minutes **Previous** of It was noted that the last meeting of the CCC was Meeting held on 14 February 2023. There were no comments made regarding the previous minutes; **Action Items: 1**. DJ noted that he had received the information on VPA funding allocations from both Bathurst & Mid Western Councils, and that it was circulated to all CCC members in May. **2.** MM confirmed that the results of environmental monitoring undertaken are provided on the project website. 6.0 Proponent's Report MM reported that CWP has now been taken over by **Squadron Energy** and is now 100% Australian owned; apart from the re-branding and name change, operations and staffing continue as previously; MM noted that one or two turbines have been repaired in recent months due to lightning damage to the blades; The second annual maintenance event was carried out recently; it was noted that bearing issues are more prevalent generally on the larger turbines now being installed. One complaint was received from a landowner in the last few months, relating to noise from a turbine; There have been no visits to site from regulatory authorities in the last few months. 7.0 Other Agenda Items Buzz (RS) emailed CCC members and Mid-Western Council on 30 July to suggest that some of the Crudine Ridge W/F VPA funds be used for an 'Imagination Library' for 0-5 year olds. He provided a link to the programme, which has successful been most in Tamworth https://imaginationlibrary.com/au/. Members liked the suggestion and the chair (DJ) undertook to follow up M-W Council to advise of the CCC's support. MM reported that senior management from Squadron are planning to meet with Council to discuss the allocation of VPA funds. The chair noted that the new CCC Guideline requires all CCCs to operate in accordance with it during a transition period of 6 months. He advised that the changes are relatively minor but

	he (DJ) will draft a new 'Terms of Reference' for the committee and circulate to members during this period for discussion at the next CCC meeting in March 2024.
8.0 General Business	<ul> <li>MM noted that local residents, Karen &amp; Mark Croake, had requested MW Council provide some funding to repair the Pyramul Hall from the wind farm's VPA funding. Council replied on 13 June 2023 to advise that at their May meeting Council confirmed that they do not support funding of community groups from VPA funds. Karen Croake then emailed Squadron Energy on 14 August to advise of Council's decision and to request that Squadron Energy consider providing some assistance with running costs and repairs, which the Hall badly needs.</li> <li>The committee requested that the chair advise MW Council that the CCC requests that Council reconsider their decision, and that it was always the case that CWP wished for their contributed funds to be used to help projects etc in the local community. (ACTION ITEM 1)</li> <li>Note that CWP/Squadron also separately provides some sponsorship monies to community and sporting groups etc.</li> <li>MP noted that he believes current governments are closing coal-fired power stations too quickly and that this will cause an energy crisis if it continues.</li> <li>It was noted that Andrew Hundy has not attended recent CCC meetings and DJ undertook to contact him re his continued membership. (ACTION ITEM 2)</li> </ul>
10.0 Next Meeting	The date for the next meeting was selected as <u>Tuesday 12 March 2024, at 10 am</u> , unless there is a good reason to change that.

**Meeting closed at 10.50am**DJ thanked all present for their attendance.

## **Action Items:**

Item	Issue	Action By:
1.	The Chair to contact MW Council to advise that the CCC feels strongly that the wind farm VPA funds should be spent within the local area.	DJ
2.	The Chair to contact Andrew Hundy (community representative) to confirm if he wishes to continue as a CCC member.	DJ

David Johnson, Independent Chair