

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

**3 September 2024 at Pyramul Hall, Pyramul (10.05 am)**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Position</b>
David Johnson	DJ	Independent Chairperson
Dr Robert (Buzz) Sanderson	RS	Community Member
Max Price	MP	Community Member
Owain Rowland-Jones	ORJ	Community Member
Mike McGuire	MM	Squadron Energy
Kath Elliott	KE	Squadron Energy
Kacee Milnes	KM	Squadron Energy
<b>Observers:</b>	none	
<b>Apologies:</b>		
Jess Jennings	JJ	Mayor, Bathurst Regional Council
Ben Deer	BD	Squadron Energy
Des Kennedy	DK	Mid-Western Council

<b>Item</b>	<b>Details and Actions</b>
<b>1.0 Welcome and Introductions</b>	<b><i>Meeting opened at 10.15am.</i></b> David Johnson welcomed those present, and noted the apologies he had received. He particularly welcomed Kacee Milnes, CRWF Operations Manager, Squadron Energy. MM is moving to the Uungula wind farm project and DJ thanked him for his support and organisation of the CCC during his time on the CRWF project.
<b>2.0 Acknowledgement of Country</b>	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.
<b>3.0 Declarations of Interest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
<b>4.0 Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair noted further email correspondence between himself and Mid-Western Council in March, May &amp; August 2024 relating to the allocation of VPA funding monies.</li> </ul>

<p><b>5.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that the last meeting of the CCC was held on 12 March 2024. There were no comments made regarding the previous minutes;</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1. DJ noted that both he and KE had contacted MW Council requesting information on VPA funding allocations, and stressing that the CCC requests funding to be targeted to the local area of the windfarm.</li> <li>• 2. On-going – remains open.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6.0 Proponent’s Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current turbine maintenance program is nearly complete, with two turbines left to be completed.</li> <li>• A major unscheduled outage due to cable damage in July led to the entire w/f being out of action for two weeks.</li> <li>• KE/KM – Squadron have been actively engaged in liaising with the community in the Rylstone, Kandos and Ilford areas. They are planning to subsidise disadvantaged children and families at Kandos Public School. BS suggested other possible avenues for assisting the Kandos community – such as the museum and high school.</li> <li>• KE – Squadron are open to suggestions of ways in which they can assist and help invigorate the local communities, such as Kandos.</li> <li>• BS - Considerable levels of disadvantage exist in the Kandos community and there are opportunities to assist in social disadvantage. BS noted that STEM subjects are not available at Kandos High School and enrolments at Kandos schools are decreasing.</li> <li>• BS reported on Mudgee tourism initiatives and the difficulties of introducing commercial benefits to the area.</li> <li>• OR-J noted the decline in rural properties in the area, due to mostly part-time landowners taking over leading to deterioration in the condition of the land. A large property in the area has just been sold for future subdivision, with four turbines.</li> <li>• Discussion proceeded on the decline of towns in the area and KE invited any suggestions as to how Squadron Energy can help invigorate the local areas.</li> </ul>

<p><b>7.0 Other Agenda Items</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>VPA funding</u>: KE reported approaches from community members re the allocation of VPA funds – referring to Mid-Western Council (MWC) area.</li> <li>• DJ noted the above-mentioned correspondence with MW Council in 2024, and advised that he had a phone call and email from Lisa Penson of MW Council on 28 August advising that Council had allocated \$100,000 for a new roof on the Crudine Hall from VPA funds. This information was also provided to Squadron in a letter from Council’s GM on 22 May. She also noted that Council are awaiting a quote from the Pyramul Hall Committee for new amenities at the Pyramul Hall. DJ to follow this up with Karen Croake of the Pyramul community group. (ACTION ITEM).</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.0 General Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OR-J asked about the above-mentioned property of Don Price which has four turbines, and is to be sold and sub-divided. Discussion ensued on whether subdivision will be allowed or not. KM to provide an update on whether sub-division will be allowed with four turbines on the property (ACTION ITEM for next meeting).</li> <li>• It was noted that council elections are coming up in 2 weeks and new council representatives may be appointed to the committee. BS noted that MW Council does not have wards and all councillors are elected ‘at large’. Most councillors are from Mudgee and Gulgong and several are running again. DJ undertook to keep in touch with the two councils re new council CCC reps.</li> <li>• DJ asked whether the weed Sticky Nightshade is a problem in this area, as it is around Orange. It is not a serious problem in this area.</li> <li>• DJ acknowledged Mick McGuire who is transferring to a different wind farm project, and thanked him for his support for this committee.</li> <li>• The idea of advertising for new CCC members was raised and suggested for action in the new year (via local papers or radio station 2KRR).</li> <li>• DJ to suggest to Andrew Hundy that he resign from the CCC as he has not attended nor apologised re the last 3 meetings.(ACTION ITEM)</li> </ul>

<b>9.0 Next Meeting</b>	The date for the next meeting was selected as <b><u>Tuesday 4 March 2025, at 10 am</u></b> , unless there is a good reason to change that.
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**Meeting closed at 11.15am**

DJ thanked all present for their attendance.

**Action Items:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action By:</b>
1.	DJ to enquire with Karen Croake of the Pyramul Hall Committee about providing a quote for provision of new amenities at the Hall, which MW Council are waiting for.	<b>DJ</b>
2.	KM to enquire and advise whether or not subdivision will be allowed on Don Price's property which has four turbines.	<b>KM</b>
3	DJ to contact Andrew Hundy (Community rep, Sofala area) to suggest he resign from the committee	<b>DJ</b>

David Johnson, Independent Chair