



**MINUTES OF SAPPHIRE WIND FARM
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE**

9am, Tuesday 30th April 2019
RSM Club, Evans St, Inverell

Attendees:

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chair
Patric Millar (PM)	CWP Asset Management
Cr Carol Sparks (CS)	Mayor of Glen Innes Severn Council & delegate
Chris Voll (CV)	Church Communities Australia & IBC (<i>left at 10.40am</i>)
Ben Swan (BS)	Community Representative (host land owner)
Neil Eigeland (NE)	Community Representative (<i>arrived at 9.07am</i>)
Matthew Velcich (MV)	Business in Glen

Apologies:

Peter Sniekers – Office of Regional Development
David Williamson – CWP
Anthony Alliston – Inverell Shire Council
Cr Stewart Berryman – Inverell Shire Council (alternate)
Annabel Sides – Community Representative
Mike Norton – Community Representative

ITEM		ACTION/COMMENTS												
1.0 Welcome and Introductions CCC meeting opened at 9.03am by LA who welcomed all attendees and introduced the new Business in Glen delegate, Matthew Velcich.		MV was introduced to all attendees.												
2.0 Apologies As listed above.														
3.0 Finalisation of Previous Minutes In accordance with the guidelines. The minutes from the 22 nd January 2019 were finalised and distributed to CCC members.		Emailed 13/2/19.												
4.0 Declaration of Interests LA stated that she is an approved Independent Chairperson with DP&E and engaged by CWP to chair the meeting.		No changes to members' declarations of interests.												
5.0 Business Arising Action Items from previous meeting:														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>ISSUE</th> <th>WHOM</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Keep members informed regarding negotiations with the aviation lighting</td> <td>PM/LA <i>Ongoing</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>GISC & ISC to lobby LGA for consistent approach across all wind farms in NSW in relation to the requirements for aviation lighting. Also to provide feedback to the CCC on Councils' proposed actions. (<i>Complete 8/3/19</i>)</td> <td>CS/SB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Write to DPE, CASA and NWFC reiterating community concerns with aviation lighting (copies to local state and federal members) (<i>Complete 8/3/19</i>)</td> <td>LA</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		ISSUE	WHOM	1	Keep members informed regarding negotiations with the aviation lighting	PM/LA <i>Ongoing</i>	2	GISC & ISC to lobby LGA for consistent approach across all wind farms in NSW in relation to the requirements for aviation lighting. Also to provide feedback to the CCC on Councils' proposed actions. (<i>Complete 8/3/19</i>)	CS/SB	3	Write to DPE, CASA and NWFC reiterating community concerns with aviation lighting (copies to local state and federal members) (<i>Complete 8/3/19</i>)	LA	
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<p>Aviation Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LA provided members with the feedback received from the National Wind Farm Commissioner, Andrew Dyer following the meeting convened by him and held on 11/4/19 with stakeholders (CASA, Air Services Australia, CEC, NSW DP&E, Planning Victoria, etc). • PM provided members with the feedback received from Anna Freeman from the Clean Energy Council, who attended the same meeting and commented that she was buoyant about the discussions held. • CASA will work on revising the guidelines (National Airports Safeguarding Framework Principles and Guidelines) Guideline D - Guideline D: Managing the Risk of Wind Turbine Farms as Physical Obstacles to Air Navigation. Link to current guidelines: https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/environmental/airport_safeguarding/nasf/nasf_principles_guidelines.aspx • It is expected that the review will take up to 12 months. • Discussions ensued between attendees who were all in agreement that the community were united in its view that there should be NO lights turned on at night. • Whilst the lights at the reduced illumination of 10% is an improvement, all feedback received at the CCC to date is consistent that the community are opposed to any lighting being seen. Clearly - the community don't want them turned down – they want them off. • It was recommended that a modification application be lodged to remove the condition of consent requiring lighting, however, CWP will await CASA's review of the guidelines, which may provide a more consistent approach across all wind farm projects. • CS advised that she will discuss with GIS Council's General Manager, the possibility of putting a motion to the Australian Local Government National General Assembly Conference in June 2019, to lobby for a consistent national approach to aviation lighting. 	<p>Minutes from meeting to be distributed to CCC when received from NWFC.</p> <p>It remains the position of this CCC, who represent the community impacted by the aviation lighting, that the lights be turned off permanently.</p>
<p>6.0 Correspondence as per email 8/1/19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22/1/19 – Email from PM with CASA's response to the BRWF modification application. • 23/1/19 – Email from AA with a copy of ISC response to DPE on the White Rock project, which was copied through to his counterpart at GISC. • 30/1/19 – Email to members with the draft minutes from 22/1/19 for review. • 13/2/19 – Email to members with the SWF Community Co-Investment Program. • 13/2/19 – Email to members with the finalised minutes and attaching a copy of the CASA letter advising that Boco Rock WF will not require aviation lighting. • 5/3/19 – Email from Business in Glen advising that Matthew Velcich is its new delegate on this CCC. • 8/3/19 – Emails/letters to DPE, CASA, NWFC, local state and federal members attaching previous correspondence and previous minutes regarding the aviation lighting issue. • 8/3/19 – Acknowledgement email from Adam Marshall MP. • 9/3/19 – Email from NWFC advising he will arrange a round table meeting with Simon Carmody (CASA CEO) himself, DPE 	

<p>and industry to try and agree on a common sense and consistent approach going forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/3/19 – Email to Matthew Velcich (Business in Glen) provide a copy of the guidelines, together with the code of conduct and pecuniary interest forms for completion. • 11/3/19 – Acknowledgement email from Barnaby Joyce MP. • 20/3/19 – Letter from Barnaby Joyce MP advising of his actions as a result of correspondence sent to him concerning the aviation lighting. This email was forwarded on to all CCC members. • 26/3/19 – Email from National Wind Farm Commissioner advising of a meeting on 10/4/19 with senior reps from state government, CASA, his office and the Clean Energy Council. This advice was forwarded on to CCC members. • 28/3/19 – Email/letter from CASA, responding to this CCC's correspondence. This was forwarded on to CCC members. • 28/3/19 – Email to CCC members seeking feedback on the reduced illumination of the aviation lighting by 5/4/19. • 28/3/19 – Email from Chris Voll with his comments from Danthonia's perspective & supporting the CCC's previous resolutions. • 29/3/19 – Email from Patric Millar clarifying that all the lighting had not yet been switched over to 10% • 29/3/19 – Email to CCC members with this clarification and forwarding on Chris Voll's comments for the members' information. • 8/4/19 – Email to CASA & NWFC providing feedback for the meeting on 10/4/19 with stakeholders regarding aviation lighting. • 8/4/19 – Email to CCC members with information about the aviation lighting software change to 10% illumination. • 24/4/19 – Email to NWFC seeking an update on the outcome of the meeting held on 10/4/19. • 24/4/19 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice and Agenda for this meeting. • 24/4/19 – Email from Anthony Alliston with an apology for this meeting. • 29/4/19 - Email to members with a reminder for this meeting. 	
<p>7.0 Project Presentation PM advised that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project is fully operational. • Routine maintenance is occurring in accordance with procedures. • A circuit breaker tripped in one of the turbines , which is being repaired at the moment. • Noise monitoring is currently occurring with 12 monitors being positioned in approved locations (close to residences, turbines, boundaries, etc). Weather stations are also attached to the monitors to record this information, which is taken into account when assessing the results. • When the results are available, a summary will be provided to the CCC. • Monthly surveys are undertaken in accordance with the Bird & Bat Management Plan, with 4 fatalities being recorded. 	<p>PM to provide noise monitoring results to next CCC.</p> <p>BS provided some background information concerning noise levels associated with the operation of turbines on his property.</p>

<p>8.0 General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS advised that a meeting was held recently concerning the assessment of applications for funding under the Sapphire Wind Fund Community Fund program, where it was decided to divide into two bundles – Summer & Winter. With \$180k available per annum, \$90k will be considered in each half. • The first round of applications totalled \$300k from 40 groups, which required detailed consideration. • Those groups that were unsuccessful in this round of funding will be provided with feedback and invited to re-apply. • As a Section 355 committee, with a membership of five, Inverell Shire Council are supporting the process. • CS advised that there is \$5k in the GISC community fund, which will be available for applications received at the same time. • CS commented that she has received positive feedback from residents and businesses regarding wind farms in the region. • NE requested an update on the Sundown Solar Farm. PM advised that the project is still at EIS stage. One of the issues being investigated is the use of tracking solar panels. • PM advised that the cut-off period for the Community Co-Investment Program has been extended to 30/6/19 and is now open to all in NSW & ACT. • BS enquired how many employees will be needed to build the Sundown Solar Farm. PM advised that approximately 200 people during construction and 4-5 permanent staff when complete. • CS stated that 72* new permanent residents are now located in the region as a result of the renewable energy projects, with workers purchasing homes in Glen Inness & Inverell contributing to the community. • NE informed the CCC of hydrogenation plants in Norway (NEL) and how this technology can be used to replace diesel, as an alternative to batteries used in gas fired power generators, etc. The gas can be transported by road tankers to storage depots. Noting that the northern tablelands would be a good location for businesses to take advantage of this new expertise, which could also provide more jobs. He hoped that CWP directors would consider contact with NEL. • NE formally requested that CWP provide ongoing advice to this CCC on the progress of the Sundown Solar Farm. CS supported this request. 	<p><i>*Note: CS originally stated 57 residents in the meeting, however, on checking, came back with a revised number of 72.</i></p> <p>NE to provide information to LA for distribution to CCC.</p> <p>Agreed by the CCC & CWP that updates would be provided at future meetings on the Sundown Solar Farm project.</p>
<p>9.0 Next Meeting</p> <p>It was agreed to hold the next CCC as scheduled and review the frequency of the meetings on 16/7/19. LA suggested moving from quarterly to bi-annual meetings following the resolution of the aviation issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tuesday 16th July 2019; and ○ Tuesday 29th October 2019. 	<p>Agreed. Review at July meeting.</p>

Meeting closed at 10.00am with LA thanking everyone for their attendance and contribution.

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ISSUE	WHOM
1	Keep members informed regarding negotiations with the aviation lighting	PM/LA Ongoing
2	When received - distribute minutes from aviation lighting meeting held by NWFC & stakeholders on 11/4/19	LA
2	Provide results of noise monitoring to next CCC	PM
3	Provide brochure on hydrogenation to CCC members	NE