

**Minutes of Uungula Windfarm
Community Consultative Committee (CCC)**

Thursday 9.30am, 22 May 2025

SQE Office 16 Maughan Street, Wellington.

Attendees	Initials	Position
Garry West	GW	Independent Chairperson
Lindsay Hough	LH	Community Representative
John Goodworth	JG	Community Representative
Brad Bliss	BB	Community Representative
John Xuereb	JX	Community Representative
Pip Smith	PS	Community Representative
Councillor Richard Ivey	RI	Dubbo Regional Council Representative
Malcolm McPhan	MMcP	UWF Project Manager, Squadron Energy
Cindy Smith	CS	UWF Environmental Advisor, Squadron Energy
Bart Sykes	BS	Regional Economic Development Manager, Squadron Energy
Peter Stewart	PS - NACAP	Lands, Environment and Cultural Heritage Manager, NACAP
Catherine McGufficke	CMcG	Stakeholder and Community Manager, Lumea (MS Teams)
Maki Okamura	MO	Project Manager, Lumea (MS Teams)
Malcolm Moore	MM	UWF Site Representative, Squadron Energy (MS Teams)
Shaun Smith	SS	NACAP

Apologies	Initials	Position
John Southwell	JS	Chamber of Commerce Representative
Jay Bean	JB	Construction Superintendent, NACAP
Kath Elliott	KE	Head of Stakeholder and Community Engagement, SQE
Justin Toomey-White	JTW	First Nations Engagement Facilitator, Squadron Energy

Introduction and Welcome

GW welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional custodians of the country on which the meeting is being held. Acknowledged Elders past, present and future and all First Nations persons present.

GW noted the Melissa Bird had resigned from Squadron Energy.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

No new declarations.

Previous Minutes

GW confirmed the minutes of the CCC meeting of 20 February 2025 had been circulated and have been uploaded to the Squadron Energy project website.

Safety First Issues

NIL

Business Arising

All actions from the previous meeting had satisfactorily resolved.

Cr Richard Ivey advised the Dubbo Regional Council Renewable Energy Zone Benefit Committee had been formed and he was elected Chairperson. Pip Smith and John Southwell were also appointed. GW advised he would include a report from the committee as a standard item on each CCC agenda.

Project Update

MMcP extended an invitation for all CCC members and their partners to attend the Official Opening by the Mayor of DRC of the newly completed Twelve Mile Road (TMR) upgrade on Monday 26 May 2025 commencing at 11am.

MMcP (Project Manager) provided a project update.

- Twelve Mile Road – Upgrade is now complete with the exception of some minor road hardware
- Goolma Road & Twelve Mile Road intersection – work is currently scheduled to commence later this month pending Transport for NSW final endorsement for works to commence
- The Consortium have established site facilities on the wind farm and will mobilise to these offices towards the end of May
- Wind farm construction – works commenced into the entrance of the wind farm in March 2025 following endorsement from DRC on initial acceptance of TMR. Work will continue on access tracks within the wind farm, switch yard area and transmission tower pads over coming months
- Transgrid / Lumea are progressing with the mobilisation of resources and have commenced activities in the switching station area

Question: JG asked if access to Goolma Rd would remain open during the intersection upgrade. MMcP said yes.

Question: RI asked if the access roads be maintained and if so who would be responsible.

MMcP advised that SQE would have an initial maintenance period and after which DRC would take over responsibility.

Question: LH asked where the site office would be established. MMcP advised that it will be at the substation.

Lumea Update – Transmission Connection Project

MO reported that the Ungula Wind Farm Connection project will connect Ungula into the National Electricity Market.

To do this they will construct:

- 330/33kV substation
- 11.6km 330kV single circuit transmission line linking the substation to the switching station
- 330kV switching station
- An overhead cut-in connection from the switching station to the existing TL 79, including installation of new greenfield tower mid span and tower structure strengthening works.
- 18km of UGFO (underground) from Ungula Switching Station to Wellington West 330kV Substation.

Project activity will see Downer mobilised on site in April 2025. As well as work commencing on the switching station. Transmission line works will commence in May 2025. Commencement of detailed civil works at the Switching station will commence in June together with commencement of detailed civil works for the transmission line. In July deliveries of the transmission line towers will commence.

Wellington is the preferred location for workers accommodation; however, they may need to look to other areas depending on availability.

There will be varied heavy and light vehicle movements over the ensuing period for execution of the works. MO outlined that Squadron Energy is the customer, Lumea Transgrid group is the transmission line operator, Transgrid is the delivery partner, and Downer is the construction partner.

Question: RI asked where the contractor would be sourced. MO indicated the majority would be local contractors. Downer would have about 50 people mainly from outside the area during July & August.

Environmental Update

CS (Environmental Advisor) provided an environmental update and introduced Shaun Smith from Nacap.

Environmental Incidents

- No incidents reported last month
- 12 environmental incidents recorded for the project since commencement

Environment Performance

- Completion of TMR hand over to DRC
- Commencement of construction for wind farm 31 March 2025

Fauna Interactions

- January – 2 interactions
- Total for project 50 interactions

Environmental Inspections / interactions

- Monitoring inspections – 22 last month (256 for the project to date)
- Fauna interactions – 132 ytd
- Weed hygiene inspections – 72 last month
- Post rainfall inspections – 2 rain events last month

Question: JG asked whose responsibility will it be to maintain roadside verges, particularly for fire hazard. SM advised that Nacap would have the initial responsibility, then DRC.

Economic and Employment Development Opportunities

BS (Regional Economic Development Manager) provided an update.

Accommodation in Wellington and Dubbo

- Bellhaven – 100% First Nations renovation project and local to Wellington and Dubbo.
- Contracts have been entered into for the Bellhaven upgrade.
- DA for Keswick project has been submitted, and exhibition period has finished.

Training for workers

Planning is underway for a program for local businesses in mapping a pathway to opportunity / capability statements / WHS compliance / tendering checklists / connecting with buyers.

Nacap SQE are in the process of will introducing training for individuals with aa local Registered Training Organisation (RTO) SKIVL. This will be run through TAFE and is limited to 10 participants with an indicative commencement date of the 26 May and run for three weeks.

Advanced wastewater recycling

Contracts for this project have been entered into and the final design is underway and the site will be established by EOFY.

Renewable Energy and Career Training Centre (REACT)

SQE and three other developers including ACEREZ funding the business case for a REACT centre. DRC has submitted an application for government support for the centre in Wellington. The project has been funded for approximately \$11m using Access Rights money.

Squadron Link

SQE are in the final stages of negotiating with the Internet Service Provider.

Trainees

SQE continues to support (and fund) two First Nations trainees from Wellington. Both are currently working with ARC wind with the potential of ~~and will~~ coming onto the UWF later.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

- The project team has been consistently engaging with stakeholders, including associated residents and those living along TMR.
- A notification letter regarding the Bellhaven renovation project was delivered to all households within a 1km radius.
- Information about the Goolma intersection upgrade into TMR has been communicated to community members on the subscribed mailing list and relevant stakeholders via email.
- UHF channels for associated properties have been identified to form a project UHF channel list. The list will be communicated to the project construction team to ensure clear lines of communication for all parties.

Recent sponsorships include the Wellington Golf Club, Rural Doctors Association, Wellington Parkrun, Wellington Amateur Swimming Club and the Twelve Mile committee which is a feast for relief lunch fundraising event for the farmers in the Southwest Queensland floods.

General Business

LH noted that at Dickerton Creek causeway, just before the Wuuluman Rd turnoff, temporary barriers were currently in place and what is the proposed final solution in this area. A guard rail is to be installed which was not part of the original design. MM noted that guard rail was not part of the original design but in consultation with DRC, a guard rail system is in the process of being installed to address potential safety concerns.

LH raised concern about the unevenness of the causeway surface near Hugh Taylor's property and the impact on laden trucks. SS indicated Nacap would investigate.

JG raised concern that road users were not observing road speed limits. Transgrid and Nacap will raise this with their contractors.

JG raised concern with some vehicles noisily arriving onsite before construction start times. It was noted that work is not commencing before the authorised 7am start but as it is a public road they are entitled to arrive before that time.

LH drew attention to the rifle range that exists on his property and will be used on all Saturdays. PS advised he will ensure all workers are not working within the area on those days.

JX reported his experience of the installation of a water pipe near his property by Nacap was positive.

JG reported a number of trucks were still using Wuuluman Rd and it was causing a dust problem.

Next meeting

Next meeting – Thursday 21 August 2025 at 9.30am to be held in the Squadron Energy office, 16 Maughan Street, Wellington.

2025 Meeting Schedule: 21 August & 20 November