

# MINUTES OF UUNGULA WIND FARM COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC)

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 at WINS Community Centre, 27  
Swift Street Wellington

Attendees	Initials	Position
Garry West	GW	Independent Chairperson
Phillipa Smith	PS	Community Representative
John Goodworth	JG	Community Representative
Lindsay Hough	LH	Community Representative
John Xuereb	JX	Community Representative
Heather Gough-Fuller	HGF	Community Representative
Brad Bliss	BB	Community Representative
John Watts	JW	Dubbo Regional Council representative
Mark Branson	MB	CWP Renewables – Development Manager
Jessica Petersen	JP	CWP Renewables – Development Officer

## Apologies

John Southwell Chamber of Commerce

## Observers

Gary Fuller Husband of Heather Gough-Fuller

Item	Details and Actions
<b>1.0 Welcome and Introductions</b>	OHS briefing from WINS <b>Meeting opened at 9:34am.</b> Gary Gough-Fuller acknowledged as being granted observer status. Introductions were given by all present. GW welcomed all present and thanked everyone for their involvement. Discussed new appointment of GW as independent chairperson and importance of transparency.
<b>2.0 Apologies</b>	As listed above.
<b>3.0 Declarations of Interest</b>	GW declared that he is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Environment & Planning and engaged by CWP to chair the meeting. Discussed the importance of declaring of pecuniary interest.
<b>4.0 CCC Guidelines</b>	GW Discussed CCC guidelines and process and provided all with hard copies of the guidelines and pecuniary interest forms.
<b>5.0 Correspondence</b>  <b>Moved: GW    Seconded: All</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Correspondence via email approved by all as primary mode of communication</li> </ul>
<b>6.0 Company reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MB UWF presentation - <i>Hard copies of presentation provided to all attendees. Electronic version to be made publicly available with minutes.</i></li> <li>MB - asked if anyone present had been on the previous CCC. HGF - responded yes.</li> </ul>

<p><b>7.0 Project Update / Discussion</b></p>	<p><b>Project layout/design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PS – question about removal of eastern half of project.</li> <li>• MB – following extensive consultation with local community, changes in landowner and tenure since 2013, changes to visual planning guidelines, grid network studies found that capacity in transmission line has decreased, which decreased project size from approximately 600MW to 400MW. 122 turbines were removed from project.</li> <li>• MB - We are doing our best to hear and respond to the concerns of the community, as well as adhering to planning guidelines.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deferral of EIS under consideration until early 2019 to ensure more engagement with community</li> <li>• Discussion of Minutes and presentation made available on website.</li> </ul> <p><b>Roads and transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Components are likely to be delivered to Port of Newcastle, same route as Bodangora wind farm, then along Twelve Mile Road. Currently undertaking detailed route study and engaging with RMS and Dubbo Regional Council. Discussion about traffic management plan (TMP) and enforcing OSOM transport routes.</li> <li>• HGF - concern about traffic from construction workers.</li> <li>• MB - light vehicle routes are not enforced under planning guidelines, project cannot prevent people using public roads, but workers will be encouraged to use designated routes where possible.</li> <li>• BB - asked if roads have been surveyed</li> <li>• HGF - concerns about health and safety from dust of people who live due to dust/noise</li> <li>• MB – commitment to preparing a TMP which will outline how transport around and to project site will be managed including use of dust suppression and water carts</li> <li>• JG &amp; JX discussion about safety and lack of speed limit signs on Twelve Mile Road and Gorries lane. Not project related.</li> <li>• GW – project can't enforce road rules on public roads, but can ask DRC traffic committee to do a full inspection</li> <li>• MB need to be realistic about the project's jurisdiction and travel of light vehicles on public roads. Gave examples of traffic minimisation strategies on other projects: bus/ car pool options for construction workers, will work with council</li> <li>• JW – can suggest DRC traffic committee survey roads and signage roads and signage</li> <li>• HGF – concern about quality of roads</li> <li>• MB – project will work with RMS and DRC to improve Twelve Mile Road for heavy and over-dimensional vehicles prior to construction.</li> <li>• GW part of departments conditions will be a detailed TMP</li> <li>• HGF - look forward to seeing TMP</li> <li>• MB – the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will include a Statement of Commitments (SoC). Discussions in CCC will be fed into SoC. TMP will be prepared in consultation with RMS, DRC and community. Example from Boco Rock Wind Farm: communication between school bus drivers and construction transport.</li> <li>• HGF - pleased to hear that CWPR has a lifelong commitment to construct and own the project. Ensuring a longer-term commitment to community.</li> </ul>
---	--

	<p><b>Project lifespan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GW - project lifespan 25 years, condition in approval regarding repowering or decommissioning</li> <li>• PS – what happens if you don't renew the project in 25 years?</li> <li>• MB - projects operate on basis that 25 year lifespan of project components, we are permitted to repower the site with upgrades etc. highly likely that technology will change in 25 years. If it is not repowered it will be fully decommissioned.</li> <li>• PS - and that is the projects responsibility?</li> <li>• MB – Yes. it is a commitment under development consent and within leases with landowners</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB – during construction: approximately 250 full time jobs, supply and service contracts expected from local area. Increased employment is expected to have will have flow on effects for local community. Currently consulting with landowners close to the project and offering Neighbour Agreements for those directly affected. The project bears the cost of rates increases, some road upgrades.</li> <li>• HGF - expect there will be people very happy for employment in the region</li> <li>• MB - community investment opportunity, free up equity for project for community members to invest in the project. Currently being tested at Sapphire Wind Farm, CWPR very surprised by the high level of community interest in New England region.</li> <li>• HGF – it helps community to feel ownership of project</li> <li>• MB - Community investment fund: speaking with council about long term strategy to address employment and social issues, including scholarships, working with industry, tertiary education, flow on effects for gaining employment in the renewable energy sector.</li> <li>• HGF - education and employment would be a very good thing for the region</li> <li>• PS - where would you be looking at for training? Ensure there are training opportunities in the local area. So they don't have to go to Sydney etc.</li> <li>• MB - talking to Charles Sturt University in Dubbo, local TAFE and other providers. Aiming to provide lasting benefits for community.</li> <li>• HGF – regarding training CSU could have a campus in Wellington for related modules</li> <li>• PS – WINS Community Centre do long distance education, good to talk to about assisting community. TAFE in Wellington.</li> <li>• HGF - the more local the better</li> <li>• LH - how much investment for these community scholarships?</li> <li>• MB – some previous projects have provided funding for every MW installed, other projects are based on set fees. Every project is different and a range of commitments need to be evaluated, i.e. what is required for traineeships etc.</li> <li>• HGF - could CWP work with other RE providers to come up with the best option for the region?</li> <li>• MB - commit to investigating options for working with other providers. It depends on council appetite for the investment role by Council.</li> <li>• JW – Bodangora community investment, get away from grant funding</li> </ul>
--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GW - question about neighbour agreements</li> <li>• MB – payments for those who are impacted but do not receive direct payment from hosting turbines for those who are in close proximity to turbines. Not everyone wants a NA, but we offer them to those who would be highly impacted.</li> <li>• GW – Well done, I hope it is something that can be highlighted in the EIS - raised it because it is one of the biggest issues that gets raised on other CCCs – how can the broader community can get benefits, not just hosts.</li> <li>• HGF - what sort of agreements are they?</li> <li>• MB – it recognises impact on each landowner, for those close to the project landscape and visual impacts or transport impacts, should get some benefits from the project. It is a legal agreement, payment for impacts, the landowner would agree to waiving certain conditions. It is seen by department as a way to share the benefits of the project. The National Wind Farm Commissioner supports the use of neighbour agreements.</li> <li>• HGF - seems different to what was being offered on the project previously.</li> <li>• GW - industry has evolved and improved.</li> <li>• <i>JG excused himself from meeting</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Planning and Approvals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB – <i>discussion of approvals process, in presentation provided</i></li> <li>• GW – question about IPC criteria, automatic entrant to formalisation of wind farm guidelines</li> <li>• MB – EIS currently in preparation, studies started in 2012. Expecting to be released early 2019. We welcome and encourage public submissions</li> <li>• BB – Wellington Valley and Gallangabang Aboriginal Corporations have not been involved in biodiversity assessment for traditional use of natural resources</li> <li>• HGF – noted that biodiversity studies were not made available previously</li> <li>• BB - please provide reports, what has been identified compared to what traditional knowledge has identified</li> <li>• MB – commitment to check what is in the SEARs. Make sure information is available.</li> <li>• MB - Aiming to reduce impacts but still want to create a project is economically viable. If community has concerns please come to us before the public exhibition phase, we can address it in the design process.</li> <li>• PS – has anyone spoken to bushfire brigade? How do RFS work around WTGs. Have you got RFS involved?</li> <li>• MB – a bushfire management plan (BFMP) will be developed, we are conscious very about fire, and our responsibility to the local community. The project will provide over 110 km of 6m wide fully graded access road in an area with very difficult terrain. On ground access will be hugely improved. There will be a BFMP communications protocol with RFS, full time staff will be able to spot fires sooner. Aerial firefighting – Waterloo Wind Farm example shows close communication and cooperation with Country Fire Service can assist ground based and aerial fire fighting within the wind farm.</li> <li>• JX &amp; LH - experience from previous fires, RFS communications protocols, callout to Sydney with no local knowledge makes it difficult to understand where the fire is.</li> <li>• PS &amp; HGF – concern about lack of mobile coverage in the area, missing RFS messages etc.</li> </ul>
--	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB – The BFMP will contain protocols for communication between wind farm and local brigades</li> <li>• PS – will you be working with RFS?</li> <li>• MB - prior to construction, we will work with RFS and local brigades to develop the BFMP</li> </ul> <p><b>Project timeline</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB - Project timeline discussion, consultation ongoing, working with council on road upgrades</li> <li>• LH – are you going to hold a public meeting?</li> <li>• MB – yes, a public open day will be held early 2019</li> </ul> <p>GW thanked MB for project update</p>
<b>8.0 Matters, which Community Representatives wish to raise.</b>	As above
<b>9.0 Community Engagement Opportunities</b>	GW - Keep as an agenda item if CCC have ideas for future opportunities
<b>10.0 Meeting Dates</b>	GW - Next year important for meetings with EIS coming out. Aim to meet quarterly in 2019 Friday mornings 9.30am most are available 15 February; 26 April; 19 July and 4 October
<b>11.0 General Business</b>	GW - Next year is going to be a big input for CCC. Important for CCC to be available to community to hear community issues or concerns and give feedback to project developers
<b>12.0 Next Meeting</b>	15 February 2019

**Meeting closed at 11:24am.**

***GW thanked all present for their attendance.***

**Action Items:**

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Provide times/dates for next meetings	GW