

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

Wednesday 9.30am, 22 February 2024

Maliyan Cultural Centre 13A Namina Crescent, Wellington.

Attendees	Initials	Position
Garry West	GW	Independent Chairperson
Lindsay Hough	LH	Community Representative
John Goodworth	JG	Community representative
Brad Bliss	BB	Community representative
Daniel Banovic	DB	Head of Delivery, Squadron Energy
Darran Reeves	DR	Civil Supervisor, Squadron Energy
Malcolm Moore	MM	Uungula WF Site Representative, Squadron Energy
Kath Elliott	KE	Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Squadron Energy
Sheree Kidziak	SK	Environmental Adviser, Squadron Energy
Cindy Smith	CS	Environmental Adviser, Squadron Energy
Bart Sykes	BS	Regional Economic Development Facilitator, SQE
Courtney Urdarov	CU	Stakeholder Engagement Adviser, Squadron Energy
Malcolm McPhan	MMcP	Project Manager, UWF, SQE
Justin Toomey-White	JTW	First Nations Engagement Facilitator, SQE
Peter Stewart	PS	LECH Manager, NACAP
Jay Bean	JB	Construction Superintendent, NACAP

Apologies

Pip Smith	PS	Community representative
John Xuereb	JX	Community Representative
Cr Richard Ivey	RI	Dubbo Regional Council Representative
John Southwell	JS	Chamber of Commerce representative

Introduction and Welcome

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

GW requested all present introduce themselves and advised that all CCC members need to sign a new Code of Conduct form.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

No new declarations

Previous Minutes

GW confirmed the minutes of the CCC meeting of 29 November 2023 had been circulated and have been uploaded to the project website.

Project Update

MMcP referred to the sod turning event held onsite on 11 January 2024 to mark the project officially commencing.

JG asked why members of the CCC were not invited. BB also asked who arranged the smoking ceremony as the Wellington Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation, one of the Registered RAP's were not invited or advised.

KE apologised on behalf of SQE for the oversight in not inviting CCC members and JTW advised he would investigate who arranged the smoking ceremony.

MMcP advised Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) had approved the Traffic Management Plan and issued Section 138 permits for works on Twelve Mile Road. The Public Road upgrade site facility buildings commenced installation on 7 February 2024 and is in the final stages of completion.

Cultural heritage protection has been actioned at the Twelve Mile Road laydown area located near the intersection of Goolma Road.

Discussions are currently underway with TfNSW, Engineers and Community regarding the Glen Dorin Memorial.

Geotechnical investigations as part of early works activities are complete with the successful drilling of 66 drills holes in difficult and often challenging terrain without a safety incident or injury. (See meeting presentation slides for detail).

Traffic Management Plans review

KE reported on a meeting that was conducted on 29 November 2023 with emergency services, Twelve Mile Rd residents, CCC representative, cyclists and SQE & Nacap staff to review the Traffic Management Plan regarding Twelve Mile Rd Oversize Overmass (OSOM) deliveries and schedules and communication & notification procedures. Notes from the meeting were circulated to CCC members.

Environmental Update

CS advised that the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) variation has been approved which aligns clearance limits with the NSW Development consent (ie. 143 ha to 142 ha). There were no incidents to report. No go Zones had been established and 4 trees have been avoided.

Two weekly inspections have been conducted at the laydown areas and good housekeeping was noted on both occasions. Weed hygiene inspections on new and returning vehicles to the site are now an ongoing requirement. Heritage management was undertaken at two sites in January 2024.

Economic and Employment Development Opportunities

BS advised that a Wellington shopfront was being investigated with inspections being undertaken for a suitable location.

First Nations traineeships for locals has commenced - two positions funded by SQE. Trainees are based with ARC Wind (sub contractor) and will have training and experience to be able to move home and work on projects close to Wellington.

In collaboration with TAFE NSW SQE are developing a micro credential TAFE course called "Introduction to the Wind Industry" an online course that explains the industry and what jobs are available.

Housing and accommodation initiatives are being investigated including Bellhaven.

Skills and employment outcomes involve bringing skills to the regions. SQE have 10 FTEs in Wellington / Dubbo area. An MOU is being developed with local First Nations Groups as well as local business engagement.

A Renewable Energy Awareness and Career Training Centre (REACT) is being established as a legacy for Wellington. More information as this is progressed.

Community and Employment Benefit Fund \$128 forward funded access fees. BS advised that this was being conducted by EnergyCo; all renewable energy projects in the CWOREZ will make a financial contribution to community benefit.

<https://www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/news/community-and-employment-benefit-program-online-briefing>

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Squadron Link information session is planned for Thursday 29 February 2024 at Mumblebone Ram Selling Complex, Wuuluman. SQE as part of the construction of the UWF is offering locals access to a proposed private fixed wireless point-to-point network. Expressions of Interest are currently being sought. So far 13 responses have been received and 50 – 100 are required.

JG inquired if Cadonia Estate is included in the catchment for Squadron Link? KE will investigate & advise.

The Community Co-investment scheme with a minimum investment of \$1,000 is expected to be launched shortly. It will be available across the Central West Orana REZ.

A Community Relations Advisor is about to be engaged for the REZ.

Engagement with landowners on Twelve Mile Rd is the main focus at the moment.

Recent sponsorships include: Wellington Show, Wellington Wedgetails, The Nanima Common Solar Connection and the LALC for their community Christmas Party.

General Business

LH queried when road construction is likely to commence. DR advised vegetation clearing will commence early March.

JG indicated there has been a recent increase in truck movements and dust was becoming an issue. DR advised they were not SGE associated, more likely Wellington Sand & Gravel as they have recently expanded their quarry operations. DR advised they will actively manage dust issues that arise from their activities.

LH queried the extent of the road works planned. DR indicated the road will be widened where necessary and the surface re-sheeted with drains and culverts installed where necessary. Retaining walls will be installed in certain places as well as power poles being moved.

JG queried if RFS contact details had been confirmed for all SQE employees and that CH15 is the RFS channel.

LH asked what is the road width required for the OSOM vehicles? DR wasn't sure and will advise.
[ACTION]

Meeting Frequency and Next meeting

It was agreed to aim for quarterly meetings but if issues arose, they could be covered by an extraordinary meeting.

Next meeting – Thursday 23 May 2024 at 9.30am

Actions

1	Resolve Proponent Membership of CCC for Delivery Phase of the Project	GW & DB
2	Cadonia Estate eligibility for Squadron Link	KE
3	Required road width for OSOM vehicles	DR