

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

**Thursday 9.30am, 21 November 2024**

**Squadron Energy office, 16 Maughan Street, Wellington.**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Position</b>
Garry West	GW	Independent Chairperson
Lindsay Hough	LH	Community Representative
John Goodworth	JG	Community Representative
John Southwell	JS	Chamber of Commerce Representative
Brad Bliss	BB	Community Representative
Councillor Richard Ivey	RI	Dubbo Regional Council Representative
Malcolm Moore	MM	UWF Site Representative, Squadron Energy
Cindy Smith	CS	UWF Environmental Advisor, Squadron Energy
Bart Sykes	BS	Regional Economic Development Facilitator, Squadron Energy
Peter Stewart	PS	Lands, Environment and Cultural Heritage Manager, NACAP
Melissa Bird	MB	UWF Community Relations Advisor, Squadron Energy
Justin Toomey-White	JTW	First Nations Engagement Facilitator, Squadron Energy
Warwick Tidswell	WT	Project Director, Squadron Energy

**Apologies**

John Xuereb	JX	Community Representative
Pip Smith	PS	Community Representative
Malcolm McPhan	MMcP	UWF Project Manager, Squadron Energy
Kath Elliott	KE	Head of Stakeholder and Community Engagement, Squadron Energy
Darran Reeves	DR	UWF Civil Supervisor, Squadron Energy
Jay Bean	JB	Construction Superintendent, NACAP

**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.

## **Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

No new declarations

## **Previous Minutes**

GW confirmed the minutes of the CCC meeting of 22 August 2024 had been circulated and have been uploaded to the Squadron Energy project website.

## **Safety First Issues**

JG concerned that road workers properly extinguish cigarettes due to areas of dry grass.

RI indicated he had received concerns regarding traffic control light sequencing along Twelve Mile Road.

## **Business Arising**

VPA arrangements with Dubbo Regional Council. Members wish to know who advertises for Community Grants and is the CCC able to make recommendations. Melissa Bird and Garry West agreed to seek advice.

## **Project Update**

MM (Site Representative) provided a project update. Road upgrade works continued on Twelve Mile Road including clear and grub, drainage, earthworks, mass block wall construction and associated activities such as survey and geotechnical testing.

Traffic control continues to be an area of concern for local residents. SQE and Contractor continue to respond to community concerns.

The Goolma Road and Twelve Mile Road intersection is requiring liaison with external asset owners – Jemena, Telstra / NBN and Essential Energy to design close-out relating to the relocation of existing assets. Water and sewer relocations are complete awaiting a cut-over in December.

Ilgingery Road works commenced during the last period with erosion and sediment (ERSED) controls in place. Vegetation clearing and topsoil stripping has commenced.

There were no environmental Incidents during the quarter and all ERSED controls are in place and operating effectively.

Transgrid / Lumea are progressing with design and procurement activities.

## **Environmental Update**

CS (Environmental Advisor) provided an environmental update including the number of trees removed to date and the necessary fauna protocols which have been followed for detection, removal and avoidance. There were no incidents or non-conformances to report. Weekly inspections and biodiversity monitoring continue to be conducted.

Twelve Mile Road clearing has finished as Ilgingery Road clearing commences. A magpie nest has been successfully relocated and all Aboriginal Salvage has been completed for the windfarm.

## **Economic and Employment Development Opportunities**

BS (Regional Economic Development Facilitator) provided an update on the industry sessions that are continuing to inform and engage with local businesses about the UWF project Squadron Energy activities and CWO REZ activities. There has been good attendance at the workshops in Dubbo and Wellington resulting in connections being made between NACAP and local suppliers and contractors. Early thinking is being undertaken as to what a program looks like for job seekers.

As previously advised, in partnership with NSW TAFE a TAFE course has been developed called "Introduction to the Wind Industry" an online course that explains the industry and what jobs are available on a wind farm, talking to employment opportunities on a windfarm site. Enrolments are still available for anyone interested.

The Spicers Creek Windfarm has recently been granted development consent by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) within the CWO REZ.

Tenders close early December for Design and Construct of the Advanced Waste Water Recycling (AWWR) plant. This Public Private Partnership with Dubbo Regional Council is aimed to achieve 700ML per annum recycling capacity. SQE have rights to use a percentage of the recycled water during construction of our renewable projects in the CWO REZ and then leave it as legacy infrastructure for Dubbo Regional Council. The plant is expected to be complete by June 2025. This project will help to ensure there is water security in the next dry period for the region.

DRE have submitted an application for government support for the Renewable Energy and Career Training Centre (REACT) to be in Wellington. SQE and 3 other developers have contributed funds for the business case.

SQE recently hosted a stand at the Orana Youth Forum / Job Expo in Dubbo which was attended by 2,000 students.

## **Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

MB (Community Relations Advisor) has been continuing engagement with Landholders on Twelve Mile Road and discussing Property Management Plans that involve communicating with the host landowners and discussing upcoming works on the Landowners property for their information.

The October UWF project newsletter was distributed and the Christmas newsletter is being prepare for publication.

Recent sponsorships St Mary's Catholic School, Wellington Public School Naidoc celebrations, Wellington Public School boys shed, Wellington District Junior Cricket Association, Wellington Golf Club, Central West Black Trackers – a 2025 rugby league knockout tournament to held in Wellington, Wellington Wedgetails for the 2025 rugby league 9's tournament to be held in Wellington, Western Plains Science and Engineering Challenge, Wellington 2025 Show Sponsor, Wellington WINS Community Christmas event and the Wellington Amateur Swimming Club sponsorship for 2024/2025.

## **General Business**

JG raised concern about a dam located off Uungula Road involving a MAAS tank for the quarry resulting in the creek drying up. It was decided this was not associated with the UWF project and JG to speak to MAAS.

LH advised that SQE would not be able to fund the Wuuluman Bush Fire Brigade shed but are happy to support efforts. LH indicated that the site still needed to be acquired which needs to be coordinated between the RFS and DRC and thanked MB for her ongoing support.

JG asked if there had been progress with the internet project and BS indicated the commitment to the project remains whilst progress is slow.

GW advised he had received a nomination for a representative of the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel (WAAP) to join the CCC and it has been referred to the Department of Planning for processing.

**Next meeting**

Next meeting – Thursday 20 February 2025 at 9.30am to be held in the Squadron Energy office, 16 Maughan Street, Wellington.

2025 Meeting Schedule: 20 February; 22 May; 21 August & 20 November