

**Minutes of meeting held  
on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018  
Soldiers Club, Yass**

**Attendees:**

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chair
Kristy Old (KO)	CWP Renewables (Development Manager)
Thomas Behrendt (TB)	CWP Renewables
Thomas McGrath (TM)	Community Representative – Host Landholder
Terry Sellwood (TS)	Community Representative
Jayne Apps (JA)	Boorowa District Landscape Guardians ( <i>arrived at 11.16am</i> )
Andrew Winterflood	Community Representative
Cr Geoff Frost (GF)	Yass Valley Council delegate
Cr Rita O'Connor	Hilltops Council Delegate (alternate for Cr Wendy Tuckerman)

**Apologies:**

Cr Wendy Tuckerman - Hilltops Council Delegate

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***Meeting commenced at 11:02am.***

**Welcome and Introductions**

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The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Bango Wind Farm (BWF) Community Consultative Committee (CCC) and introduced Cr Rita O'Connor from Hilltops Council. The attendance sheet was distributed for signing.

**Declaration of Interest**

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The Chair declared her interest as Independent Chairperson of the BWF CCC, approved by the Department of Planning and Environment and engaged by CWP Renewables.

No changes to previous declarations by members.

**Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

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Minutes of CCC held 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 were finalised in accordance with DP&E Guidelines and emailed to members on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

## Action Item

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Item	Issue	Responsibility
1	Link to Economic Impacts Report to be provided to CCC members Link: <a href="http://bangowindfarm.com.au/cms/actpdf_2069_123.pdf">http://bangowindfarm.com.au/cms/actpdf_2069_123.pdf</a> Included in finalised minutes	LA Complete
2	Further investigation on NSW Valuers General's Department's new Policy for valuation of lands used as wind farms. Policy emailed to CCC members on 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2017.	KO Complete
3	Update on project to be prepared and published in local print media Advertising has occurred in local print media in December 2017, January 2018 and February 2018.	KO Complete
4	KO to raise request for Hilltops Council delegate on CCC Policy emailed to CCC members on 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	KO Complete
5	Alternate host landowner delegate - application forms to be forwarded to TM Forms emailed to TM on 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2017	LA Complete

## Correspondence

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- 4/12/17 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review.
- 9/12/17 – Email to members with the finalised minutes.
- 26/2/18 – Email from DPE advising that the Bango WF application has been referred to the PAC for its determination. This information was forwarded on to all CCC members.
- 5/3/18 – Email to members providing details about the PAC hearing.
- 16/4/18 – Email to members with a Save the Date for this meeting.
- 25/4/18 – Email to members with Meeting Notice and Agenda, confirming this meeting.
- 26/4/18 – Email from Cr Tuckerman with an apology and hoping to send an alternate delegate from Council
- 27/5/18 - Email from Cr Tuckerman advising that Cr Rita O'Connor will be Hilltops delegate for this meeting.
- 7/5/18 – Email to CCC members with the media release from CWP concerning the project approval.
- 21/5/18 – Email to members with a reminder for this meeting.

**LA moved that correspondence be received.**

**Seconded: TM**

## Reports and Updates

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KO presented the project update. A hard copy of the presentation was provided to all attendees as well as plans for the final approved layout.

KO advised that since the last CCC meeting:

- The NSW DP&E recommended approval of the wind farm, with the removal of 4 turbines
- The Independent Planning Commission NSW held a public meeting in Boorowa (March 2018)
- Development approval was granted for 71 wind turbines (Layout Plan 1)
- There are a number of conditions of consent that require "Secondary Approvals" to be granted, prior to construction
- Preliminary documentation has been exhibited for public comment

- Department of Energy & Environment (federal) is currently assessing the project under the EPBC Act
- There is a new Bango Wind Farm website. Same address as before. The link is: <http://bangowindfarm.com.au/>
- NSW Value General rate increases apply only to properties with wind farm infrastructure (turbines, roads, sub-stations, etc)
- Discussions regarding the Community Enhancement Fund VPA's:  
Cr Frost advised that this matter was to be discussed at the Yass Valley Council meeting that evening. Link to report on business paper: [https://www.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/sites/yassvalley/files/public/2018/Agendas-and-Minutes/23%20May%202018%20Director%20of%20Planning%20Report\\_0.pdf](https://www.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/sites/yassvalley/files/public/2018/Agendas-and-Minutes/23%20May%202018%20Director%20of%20Planning%20Report_0.pdf)
- The following Environmental Management Strategies are being prepared:
  - \* Biodiversity Offset Strategy
  - \* Biodiversity Management Plan
  - \* Aboriginal & Heritage Management Plan
  - \* Traffic Management Plan; and
  - \* Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan.
- JA asked which aboriginal groups would be consulted in the preparation of the Aboriginal & Heritage Management Plan (Ngunnawal or Wiradjuri). KO advised that the independent consultant would be conferring with the relevant group for the project area and would advise the CCC when known. **Action.**
- The project "Matters of National Environmental Significance" preliminary documentation, and response to submissions (May 2018) has recently been on exhibition at Yass Library, Boorowa Library, Council offices as well as being advertised in the Sydney Morning Herald, Boorowa News & Yass Tribune.
- CCC members requested that they be informed of any exhibition/advertising occurring in regard to the project. **Action – ongoing.**
- Discussions were held on the decommissioning and rehabilitation processes.
- The preliminary documentation is with DEE for assessment and it is expected that a determination will be made within 8 weeks.
- If granted; then it will take between 6-12 months to gain financing and satisfy the approval conditions.
- It is expected that construction will commence in Q1 – 2019.

## General Business

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- The community representatives reinforced to the Councillors that the community funds should be spent in the project's impacted area.
- The composition of the proposed Community Enhancement Fund Committee was discussed. GF recommended it be a 355 Committee of Council, with a Councillor, Council staff member, two people from the community (not hosts) and one representative from CWP. With preference given to projects within 20 km of the wind farm, however, not Yass township.
- JA recommended that opportunities be given to children who may not live within 20km of the project but attend schools adjacent to the wind farm and may need relevant services.
- Concerns were raised by Andrew Winterflood in relation to:
  - \* Continued request for CWP to engage an Independent Valuer's to address the impact of the proposed project on all properties (individually) in the area. KO commented that reports have previously been provided to members (NSW VG's Report & Independent Valuer's Report)
  - \* He disputes the photo montage prepared by CWP and believes the impact will be much greater than that depicted.

- \* He disputes the independence of the IPAC panel members and has significant concerns with where the commissioners were taken by CWP to view the area and potential impacts.
- \* Some land owners have not signed contracts with CWP
- JA voiced her concern with her opinion on the lack of transparency with the commonwealth consultation as the CCC were not informed about the exhibition process and thus not provided with an opportunity to comment. KO commented that there was wide advertising undertaken in accordance with requirements and that a member of the CCC has made a submission.
  - KO agreed to prepare and share with CCC an overview on exhibition and advertising periods in relation to preliminary documentation (MNES) **Action**
- JA further stated that she was shocked by the decision of the IPC to remove one of the Eagle nests, because it was too close to a turbine. Citing that the turbine should be moved, not the eagle's nest.
- TS supported JA & AW's comments.
- GF advised that at the Yass Valley Council meeting that evening, he was going to put forward a motion for Council's consideration, on it taking a more proactive stance on future wind farm developments. In his opinion, the Council should understand that it is a player in the process and needs to represent their constituents. He will be seeking a direction for staff to comment at all opportunities with the concerns of the community; at both State and Federal level.
- It was generally agreed that State Significant Developments are referred to the involved council(s) for comment.

## Date of Next Meeting

Given this stage of the project, it was recommended that the meetings move to a quarterly cycle. All in agreement. Accordingly, the next meeting was scheduled for:

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 11am in Boorowa. Venue to be confirmed.**

**Meeting closed at 12.18pm with LA thanking all for their attendance.**

## Action Items

Item	Issue	Responsibility
1	CCC members to be informed when the project is undergoing an exhibition period for comment	KO Ongoing
2	Advise CCC on the Aboriginal Management Plan consultation (which groups)	KO
3	Provide dates of Preliminary Documentation exhibition and advertising periods	KO
4	Provide LGA boundary maps and turbine distances to Council representatives	TB