
**Minutes of meeting held
on Thursday 17th January 2019
Soldiers Club, Yass**

Attendees:

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chair
Kristy Old (KO)	CWP Renewables (Development Manager)
Terry Sellwood (TS)	Community Representative
Thomas McGrath (TM)	Community Representative – Host Landholder
Jayne Apps (JA)	Boorowa District Landscape Guardians
Cr Geoff Frost (GF)	Yass Valley Council delegate

Apologies:

Cr Wendy Tuckerman – Hilltops Council delegate
Andrew Winterflood – Community Representative

Meeting commenced at 10:10am.

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first CCC meeting for 2019 of the Bango Wind Farm (BWF) Community Consultative Committee (CCC).

The attendance sheet was distributed for signing.

Declaration of Interest

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

Minutes of CCC held 5th September 2018 were finalised in accordance with DP&E Guidelines and emailed to members on 21st September 2018.

Action Item from Previous Meeting

Item 1 – LA to advise members of the next meeting date: Complete - A save the date was sent out on the 12/12/18 and confirmed on 3/1/19.

Correspondence

Correspondence as sent out with the meeting notice on 3/1/19 with one additional item, which was the reminder for this meeting, which was sent on the 14/1/19.

- 12/9/18 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review.
- 21/9/18 – Email to members with the finalised minutes.
- 21/9/18 – Letter to Terry Sellwood with the finalised minutes.
- 11/12/18 – Email from CWP advising of L&E Court issuing a modified consent.
- 12/12/18 - Email to members with the link to the major projects website showing the modified consent and proposing a CCC for 17/1/19.
- 12/12/18 – Letter to Terry Sellwood with the same information.
- 3/1/19 – Email to members with Meeting Notice and Agenda, confirming meeting for 17/1/19.
- 3/1/19 – Letter to Terry Sellwood with the same information.
- 14/1/19 – Email to members with a reminder for this meeting.

Accepted.

Reports and Updates

KO provided the project report and handed a hard copy of the approved project site plan to all attendees, advising:

- The Land and Environment Court appeal has been resolved, with an updated project consent issued, which is available on the website.
- The main change was a further reduction in the turbine layout.
- Approval granted for 46 turbines to be positioned within 49 approved locations.
- 22 turbines were removed from the approval that was granted in May last year.
- The initial layout was designed with turbines around 2MW in capacity in mind. This layout is suitable for 2MW turbines in terms of potential wake effects. The preferred turbine is a 5.3MW GE model with a 200m tip height and 121m hub height with 79m blade height, however, wake effects could result in further layout reductions.
- The final layout will be determined in consideration of wake effects, balance of plant (constructability), environmental constraints, communication links, etc.
- The sequence of construction events has not yet been determined, however, focussing on building the access roads as the consent does not allow for the use of Council roads. Deliveries and movements will be internal, via the main entry to the site.
- Tenders are currently out with five companies for the project's construction with a successful contractor to be engaged by the end of February 2019. A building schedule of 18 months is proposed. TS commented on the ground around Boorowa and potential delays.
- Over the next 4-5 months survey work will be undertaken and preparation of necessary authority approvals and management plans prior to construction.
- GF enquired when work may be available for local suppliers/contractors with KO responding that it would possibly be May, with local advertising to be undertaken by the successful project contractor. Persons and companies registered on the project website have been collated and will be provided to the contractor.
- A power agreement has been secured with Snowy Hydro for 100MW over 15 years, which will underpin the project. The remaining power (up to 240MW) will be available on the market. Further information will be provided on the agreement – **Action KO**.
- KO explained that they will be meeting with the Superb Parrot Recovery Team, which will also include representatives from the other two wind farm projects in the region (Rye Park &

Coppabella). Together they will develop the conservation plan in line with the commonwealth approval conditions with a total of \$250,000 in contributed funds each year for five years.

- Concerns were raised by community representatives on the continuation of the plan past the five year period, the impact on the parrots from the turbines, the height that the parrots fly and potential mitigation issues.
- KO advised that information available states that the parrot is not found over 500m above sea level and the turbines are 600m above sea level.[#] The company is committed to ensuring there will be no impact on the parrots.
- JA requested further information about the wake effect with KO explaining that it is the influence on the energy produced due to the positioning of the turbines in relation to each other. One turbine by itself has clean air in front, and behind is turbulent, which reduces efficiency.
- JA enquired about the management plans, with KO advising that the management plans are in draft form and the project cannot be commissioned until finalised and approved by the Department of Planning in consideration with the relevant agencies (OEH, EPA, etc):
 - Environmental & Management – Prior to Construction
 - Biodiversity – Prior to Construction
 - Bird & Bat – Prior to commissioning
 - Transport Management Plan – Prior to Construction
 - Heritage – Prior to Construction.

[#] Post Script: For clarification; KO checked the documentation concerning this subject and provided the following information, post meeting:

(Bottom of p. 61 of the Preliminary Documentation for EPBC approval) states: "Manning et al. (2007) identify optimal altitudinal range occupied by the species in the region is 350-550m ASL. Contours have been mapped across the study area (Figure 3.31 to Figure 3.32). Notably, the bases of all WTGs stand at 620m or higher and therefore above the 550m ASL optimal altitudinal height range upper limit".

General Business

- TM commented that host landowners were pleased that the assessment process has now been completed and the project can move to the construction phase. He asked where the turbines that had been removed were located. KO advised that 22 turbines were removed, mostly from the Mt Buffalo cluster and three from the Kangiara Cluster.
- TM advised that he was unable to locate the section on the project website where contractors could provide their details. LA advised that it was included in the previous minutes, however, would include the link again.
<https://bangowindfarm.com.au/contractors/>
- JA enquired about the wedge tailed eagle nest that was to be removed. KO advised that the nest would remain in its current location as this turbine was deleted from the final approval.
- KO reconfirmed that CWP will use an ICN/Gateway register (or similar) where contractors and suppliers will be able to enrol. This information will be provided to the successful project contractor.
- TS stated that in contrast to TM's comments, some members of the community were still not pleased with the approval and the time taken to assess the application, which placed a burden on his property by not being able to develop it due to the impact of the development still being unknown.

- GF asked when the proponent would know the final numbers to be constructed. KO was not sure of the LGA split for the 49 turbine layout and would provide this – **Action KO**. KO also advised that the company is able to build the project in stages and where considering its options:
 - Pick the best 46 locations and build all at once,
 - Pick the best 46 locations and building in stages,
 - Reduce the wind farm project to what works best.
- GF commented that it would be in the best interest of the company to inform the community of its intentions as soon as possible. Agreed.
- KO advised that she had received a request from Charlie Prell from the Australian Wind Alliance to attend the next meeting. LA sought feedback from the CCC members and advised that she would discuss this matter with Mr Prell.

Meeting Schedule for 2019

Discussions were held about the meeting schedule for the remainder of 2019. It was agreed to hold meetings on a quarterly cycle, alternatively between Yass and Boorowa. LA asked for recommendations on a suitable venue in Boorowa. KO to investigate, Hanwood House, the Recreation Club and/or Council Chambers. The following dates were agreed:

- ✚ Tuesday 16th April 2019
- ✚ Tuesday 2nd July 2019; and
- ✚ Tuesday 1st October 2019.

Commencement time of 11am.

LA asked members if they wished to receive presentations from the proponent or their consultants at future meetings. It was suggested that when the successful project construction contractor is appointed, that they present to the CCC on their proposed schedule and program of activities.

Meeting closed at 11.07am with LA thanking all for their attendance.

Action Items

Item	Issue	Responsibility
1	Provide further details on the agreement with Snowy Hydro	KO
2	Further information on potential impact to the community of Boorowa during the construction phase of the project	KO
3	Advise the split of the 49 turbines between the two LGAs	KO
4	Investigate venues in Boorowa for CCC meetings	KO
5	Arrange for successful project construction contractor to present to the CCC	KO