



## MEETING MINUTES

<b>Meeting title</b>	<b>RYE PARK Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC). Meeting #34</b>		
<b>Attendees</b>			
David Johnson (Independent Chair) (DJ)	Owen Boushel, - Manager Stakeholder Engagement, Tilt Renewables (OB)		
Andrew Field (Community Member) (AF)	Andrew Galland, - HSEC Manager, Tilt Renewables (AG)		
Claude Morson (Community Member) (CM)	Jack Shuker, - Project Director, Tilt Renewables (JS)		
Jayne Apps (Community Member) (JA)	Mark Pring, Tilt Renewables		
Christine Hawkins (Community Member) (CH)	Cr John Piper (Hilltops Council) (JP)		
<b>Observers</b>			
<b>Apologies</b>			
Pam Kensit (Upper Lachlan Council) (PK)	Mike Gilmour (Community Member) (MG)		
Cr Jim Abbey (Yass Valley Council) (Cr JA)			
<b>Location</b>	Clubhouse Hotel, Comur Street, Yass	<b>Date &amp; start time</b>	<b>5 March 2024 at 6.00 pm</b>

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land within the project area and on which we meet, being primarily the Ngunnawal people, paying respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.</li> <li>The Chair (DJ) welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that he was recording the meeting; there were no objections.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Introductions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair noted the apologies received.</li> <li>OB introduced Mark Pring, Landholder Manager with Tilt Renewables, who will also be involved in the project going forward</li> </ul>
<b>3. Declarations of Interest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>4. Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

<p><b>5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes of the last meeting of the Rye Park CCC (#33) on 5 December 2023, were taken as approved as a draft had been circulated to all members for comment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Business Arising from Minutes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The two Action Items from the last meeting have now been closed</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Proponent's Report</b></p>	<p>OB introduced the presentation and project updates from Tilt Renewables.</p> <p>A series of slides were presented (see attachment) and supporting information was also provided by JS and AG.</p> <p>The SCHEDULE OF WORKS was presented (slides 5 &amp; 6); AG &amp; JS noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>63 of 66 turbines are now fully erected and one more tower base to be installed.</li> <li>Over 90% of main components have been delivered; 44 Turbines are electrically connected, 11 more will be by end March; all are scheduled to be operational by June.</li> <li>Five more blades are to be delivered, probably within next 2 weeks.</li> <li>Civil contractors now almost finished on site and most current work is by the electrical contractors (Vestas). For further details refer to presentation slides provided.</li> </ul> <p>COMPLIANCE, SAFETY &amp; ENVIRONMENT (AG) – slide 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One reportable safety incident since last CCC - an elevated work platform moved and injured an employee.</li> <li>No environmental incidents since last CCC.</li> <li>7th internal compliance audit completed in Nov 2023;</li> <li>next independent audit within 3 months of commencement of ops.</li> <li>Total 13 non-compliances reported; departures investigated and results sent to Dept.</li> </ul> <p>BIODIVERSITY, TRAFFIC &amp; HERITAGE MANAGEMENT - issues were updated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehab of finished areas almost complete, monitoring of rehab continues;</li> <li>Nest box installation and habitat augmentation now completed.</li> <li>Qtly monitoring of heavy vehicles through Yass St continues – 6<sup>th</sup> round by April 2024.</li> <li>Indigenous artefact reburial completed, including smoking ceremony with LALC members in attendance;</li> <li>Bird &amp; bat monitoring surveys continue, also Superb Parrot transect surveys; info on monitoring programs, reporting &amp; compliance etc is on the Tilt website.</li> <li>Outstanding Management Plans (NMP &amp; BBAMP) have been approved by relevant agencies.</li> <li>AF noted he had not seen Wedge-tailed Eagles in the area since the turbines have been installed; JA &amp; CH noted that this was their observation also. Discussion followed on the common impacts on bird life associated with wind turbines, mitigation measures and broader programs that aim to ensure the health of the species For example Tilt Renewables have found on other sites foxes have</li> </ul>

a major impact on bat colonies with fox eradication programs proving a highly effective way to improve the health of a species. It was also noted that anecdotally there were reports of significant loss of bird life associated with mice baiting for the recent grain crop. AG noted that 3 x eagle strikes had been confirmed and notifications sent to the Department

#### STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (OB)

- Next Newsletter due March 2024; construction Updates continue monthly.
- Monthly landholder communications underway & CCC meetings quarterly.
- Complaints register is up to date at end Jan. There has been an increase in noise complaints associated with the commencement of commissioning.
- One complaint was also received re dangerous driving by sub-contractor (drivers of pilot vehicles) – both were removed from the site.
- Benefit sharing –\$500 donated to Rye Park Cricket Club and over \$2,000 to Breast Cancer & Prostate Cancer Foundation.
- The Project is scheduled to move into operations in mid 2024, so VPA funding of the three Council's Community Enhancement Funds will commence on 1 July 2024. OB to provide details of VPA funding and relevant Council committees at next CCC meeting; note Council elections are due in August 2024.
- OB previously provided information on the operation of the funds; Councils are required to establish committees which make recommendations to the council for funding allocations. Each of the three Council committees is different but all should include community members; Hilltops Council is well advanced; both Hilltops and Yass Valley Councils have established committees
- Applications for community funding will be invited for projects within 20km of the wind-farm project area (nearest turbine); this requirement is specific to this wind farm to avoid monies being spent in distant areas of an LGA; funds could be one-off grants or multi-year arrangements.
- It is understood that 20% of the VPA funding is required to be allocated for educational purposes.
- The project will be transitioning to operations in mid-2024, and staffing changes will occur. New Tilt staff will include Mark Pring (landholder Manager) who is present, and also Chris Lemm (Asset manager) and Bree Williams (Community & Stakeholder Engagement Adviser). They will be the principal Tilt representatives from mid-2024, and will take over from the current team after the next CCC meeting.
- JP asked how many permanent staff would be located on-site, - probably about 8 Vestas employees, but many local people would be hired as sub-contractors by Vestas. Frustration was expressed by CH, JA and AF as they were led to believe that many more local permanent jobs would be provided in the area.
- It was also noted by CH and JA that they believe many impacts associated with the project, including visual impacts, veg removal and traffic were far worse than they were led to expect prior to approval.

## 8. General Business

- JP asked about aviation lighting – Tilt Renewables note their preference to not use the aviation lighting remains the case, and this has been discussed with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner and DPE. However, aviation lighting remains a DPE requirement.
- OB noted that the Bialla wind farm was the subject of an approach to the Commissioner who advocated with the DPE to have the aviation lights turned off, as being unnecessary.
- CH noted that she was told previously that she would not see any aviation lights, but now she sees 12 on the RPWF turbines. She examined the Bialla WF procedure and CCC involvement which led to having the lights turned off.
- CH suggests that this CCC should lobby the relevant Councils to assist in applying pressure with CASA and DPE to have the lights taken off the RPWF turbines.
- CH noted that she had had some correspondence with both DPE and CASA regarding aviation lights on turbines, and that CASA typically recommend lighting on turbines however only the DPE can require them to be installed and lit.
- **ACTION ITEM:** DJ to write to each of the three Councils to request their support in having the aviation lights removed from the RPWF turbines. The requirement from CASA is in the form of a recommendation to the DPE that aviation lights be installed. It is not a legislated or mandatory requirement.
- CH questioned if BBAMP monitoring results are publicly available. OB confirmed that EPBC annual report is uploaded to website containing monitoring information.
- DJ noted that he had not received any comments on the draft Terms of Reference for the CCC, which he circulated for comment in late 2023. The Terms of Reference will therefore now be finalised and adopted, though the list of CCC members on page 2 will of course change on various occasions. AF asked about overall traffic movements during construction and AG replied that numbers were within compliance limits.
- Questions were asked about lightning strikes and Tilt noted that they do occur from time to time and repairs are often required.
- JA noted that landowners have found that power line impacts are greater than expected, with much larger and more intrusive power poles and towers than they were told would be used. She noted it was very disappointing for the community and a lesson to be learnt by Tilt.



<p><b>9. Other Agenda Items</b></p>   <p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>None</p> <p><b>Meeting closed:</b> 7.50 pm.</p> <p><b>Next meeting</b> is scheduled for <b>Tuesday 4 June 2024, at 6pm in Yass.</b> (at the Clubhouse Hotel, Comur Street Yass).</p> <p>ACTIONS REQUIRED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. DJ to write to each of the three Councils to request their support in having the aviation lights removed from the RPWF turbines</li></ol>





# RYE PARK WIND FARM

**CCC MEETING**

**04 MARCH 2024**

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**6. PROJECT BENEFITS**



# STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTION UPDATE



No.	Action	Who	Status
1	Code of Conduct forms – sign and return the new Code of Conduct form	All	Open
2	Draft Terms of Reference - provide any comments on the draft by 5 January 2024,	All	Closed



# SCHEDULE OF WORKS

## INDICATIVE SCHEDULE



### Project Programme:

- Construction commenced 1 December 2021
- Public Road upgrades – complete
- Civil works – complete
- Commissioning – ongoing
- Operations – Mid 2024

	2021	2022											2023											2024								
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	
Public Road Upgrades																																
Civil Works																																
Electrical Works																																
WTG Component Deliveries																																
WTG Installation																																
Rehabilitation																																
Testing and Commissioning																																

# SCHEDULE OF WORKS

## TRANSPORT, ROAD UPGRADES & SCHEDULE



### Transport update:

- Significant reduction in vehicle traffic with completion of civil works
- OSOM deliveries are continuing.

### Local roads update:

- Monitoring and maintenance (where required) are the focus for the project.

- 63 of 66 wind turbines now fully erected
- 65 of 66 tower bases installed
- 90+% of main components delivered
- 44 (hot-commissioned) turbines electrically connected



Installation progress

Operational staff are mobilising to site under the delivery team

Formal handover to occur mid this year covering:

- All operations
- Community engagement (including CCC)



Chris Lemm, Asset Management



Mark Pring, Landholder Manager



Bree Williams, Senior Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor



### Safety

- 1 new reportable safety incidents – [EWP excursion off access track resulting in injuries to worker](#)
- [Quarterly HSE audit conducted January 24 next audit scheduled for April 24](#)

### Environmental

- 0 incidents recorded and reported to DPE since previous CCC.

### Complaints and Compliance

- Complaints register is updated and published monthly on website ([February](#) report uploaded)
- 13 x Non-compliances – 1 x NCR relating to a number of instances where construction related disturbance has occurred outside of the Project Area resulting in 0.41 Ha. [Departures were investigated by RPRE and the contractor and results forwarded through to the Department](#)
- 3-monthly internal compliance audit undertaken during November 2023 (7th internal environmental audit)
- [Next independent audit to be conducted within 3 months of the commencement of operations](#)
- Tracking of vegetation disturbance complete and results forwarded onto BCD (surveyors undertaken pickups through site)



### Biodiversity Management

- Rehabilitation of finished areas has largely been completed including replacement of topsoil, stabilisation and seeding of temporary disturbance areas (Monitoring and
- Nest box and habitat augmentation installation [has been completed](#)

### Traffic Management

- Quarterly monitoring of heavy vehicle movements through Yass St continues in alignment with TMP requirements. [5th round completed November 23, 6th round to be completed March/April 24](#)

### Heritage management

- Artefact reburial has been completed including a smoking ceremony. Members from Onerwal LALC and Buru Ngunawal LALC were in attendance

### Biodiversity / Offsets

- A reduction in the overall disturbance area of the Project in both native vegetation and non-native areas from 444 ha to 374 ha (16% reduction)

- An overall reduction of impacts to all relevant vegetation types and species habitat, including for example:
- Box Gum Woodland (PCT 350) – reduced by 5.37 ha (16% reduction), or a 25% reduction from the relevant clearing limit in the Development Consent
- Superb Parrot habitat – reduced by 3.35 ha (17% reduction)
- Golden Sun Moth habitat – reduced by 11.35 ha (15% reduction)

### Pre-Commissioning Plans

- Outstanding management plans (NMP and BBAMP) approved by relevant agencies
- Commissioning bird and bat monitoring surveys [continue across site in collector groups A, B, C, F and G](#)
- Superb Parrot transect surveys [continue](#) across site
- Bat monitoring surveys [continue across site](#)





## Communication

- Newsletter (September issue released, [next newsletter due late March 2023](#)).
- Monthly construction updates focused on public road upgrades and OSOM deliveries (email, SMS and community noticeboards)
- Monthly landholder communications underway
- CCC meetings (Quarterly)

## Complaints and Enquiries

- Direct email: [complaints@tiltrenewables.com](mailto:complaints@tiltrenewables.com) or people can use: [ryeparkwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com](mailto:ryeparkwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com) or call 1800 WE TILT (938 458)
- View our Complaints Management Procedure and Project Complaints Management Plan on the [Project webpage](#).
- Complaints Register up to date as of end [January 2024](#). Next report [February 2024](#).

### Benefit Sharing initiatives update

- Rye Park Clash of the Villages cricket match - \$500
- National Breast Cancer Foundation – over \$2,000 raised
- The Rye Park Recreation Ground committee are exploring the possibility of selling the food van at the showgrounds. Should the food van be sold the funds will be reinvested into the recreation grounds for facilities that benefit the Rye Park community

# DISCUSSION

