

Meeting title	Liverpool Range Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC)		
Attendees			
Michael Silver OAM (Independent Chair)	Matt Clarkson (Upper Hunter Shire Council)		
Greg Piper (Community Member)	Matt Stafford, Project Manager, Tilt Renewables [video link]		
Linda Gant (Community Member)	Nick Daly, Senior Community and Stakeholder Relations Advisor, Tilt Renewables		
Ant Martin (Involved Landowner)	Anne-Louise Capel, Community and Land Co-ordinator, Tilt Renewables		
Leeanne Ryan (Warrumbungle Shire Council)			
Observers			
Jane Hegarty	Kathy Rindfleish		
Apologies			
Dr Julia Imrie (Community Member)	Cr Ron Campbell (Upper Hunter Shire Council)		
Matthew Pringle (Upper Hunter Shire Council)	Lee Doyle		
Location	Liverpool Range Wind Farm Office, 50 Binnia Street Coolah	Date & start time	27 August 2024 at 1.07 pm

Topic	Discussion
1. Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Mr Silver welcomed the observers attending the meeting. It was agreed by the Committee that the observers could engage with discussion during the meeting without seeking endorsement of the Chair. The Chair noted that Martine Holberton had resigned from Tilt Renewables. Mr Silver complimented her on her dedication to the project and support of the CCC. He extended best wishes to her in her future career pursuits. Mr Stafford supported the Chair's comments. Mr Silver welcomed Ms Holberton's replacement, Mr Nick Daly to his first meeting of the CCC.
2. Acknowledgement of Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting is being held and their continuing connection to land, water, and culture, paying respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.
3. Declarations of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Silver – pecuniary interest – expenses of Independent Chair borne by Proponent. Ant Martin – pecuniary interest - host landholder and landholder of proposed quarry.
4. Committee Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair advised that he had contacted Community Member, Mr Graeme Booker regarding his future membership of the Committee. The Chair advised that it was unlikely Mr Booker would be attending future meetings. Given the current status of the project the Chair advised he would await the determination of the proposal before initiating any replacement action.
5. Minutes of Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the minutes of the CCC meeting held on 14 March 2024 had been approved on 20 April 2024. The minutes are available on the Tilt Renewables website.

<p>6. Business Arising</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>7. Actions</p>	<p>6.1 That Tilt arrange for the concrete and aggregates contractor to address a future meeting of the CCC, prior to the commencement of construction work, regarding location and operation of the proposed quarries.</p> <p>Response: Deferred pending selection of preferred balance of plant (BoP) contractor and confirmation of construction program. DEFERRED</p>
<p>8. Correspondence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>9. Proponent's Report</p>	<p><i>Matt Stafford led the presentation of the Proponent's Report and was supported by Nick Daly (copy attached to minutes).</i></p> <p>8.1 Project Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Stafford provided a detailed project update. He advised that Nick Daly had been appointed as Senior Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor and is based in the Sydney office. Mr Daly has an extensive background in planning and community engagement. • Mr Stafford provided an overview of the status of the Modification Application and the amendment to include the proposed Temporary Workforce Accommodation (TWA) facility. He noted that two sites had originally been proposed: one at Coolah and another at Cassilis. However, following considerable community concern regarding the Cassilis site, the Coolah location was selected as the preferred site. The Response to Submissions Report was lodged in April and it is anticipated that a determination on the Modification Application by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI), under delegation, will be made by the end of September 2024. • Mr Stafford advised that the Public Environment Report was exhibited in May-June 2024 with four submissions received. He indicated that a decision under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) is expected in November 2024. • Mr Stafford advised that road upgrade designs were at an advanced level and would be forwarded to Council's for review shortly. Leanne Ryan questioned whether this would be prior to determination of the Modification by DPHI or after. Mr Stafford responded, mostly likely after. The Chair questioned the processes associated with meeting the cost of the proposed road upgrades. Mr Stafford advised there is a memorandum of understanding between EnergyCo and Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for EnergyCo to deliver the road upgrades. He noted that fees and charges on energy suppliers in the REZ will be funnelled by EnergyCo into meeting the costs of infrastructure upgrades. • In terms of the Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA), Mr Stafford noted there is general agreement however Tilt is working with both Councils in the drafting of a new VPA. • Mr Stafford confirmed that the Balance of Plant (BOP) tender had been short listed to two potential contractors with the selection of the preferred tenderer in in 2025. • Mr Stafford outlined the status of Biodiversity Offsets, noting all land-based offsets should be lodged by the end of September 2024. He also

noted that the first round of ecosystem credits had been purchased from a landowner in the Merriwa area and included box gum woodland.

- Jane Hegarty asked how the ecosystem credits will be managed, and who will manage them. Mr Stafford advised this was still being determined, together with how much will be contracted out to others.
- Linda Gant commented expressed concern about how these areas will be managed and the quality of the management – suggesting it was a “wait and see exercise”. Mr Stafford responded that the Biodiversity Management Plans were extremely detailed with regular auditing required to ensure compliance. He noted that the NSW Government is proposing major reforms to the NSW biodiversity conservation laws following the 2023 independent review of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, which identified issues with offset compliance.
- Ms Hegarty sought confirmation that where the project footprint impacts box woodland this will be offset. Mr Stafford confirmed this would be the case.
- The Chair questioned whether additional ecosystem credits will be required. Mr Stafford advised that this will not be required at present. He indicated the BOP contractor will do the final design with a focus on minimising or reducing impacts – consequently Mr Stafford was confident that the design outcome will be achieved without the need for more ecosystem credits.
- Greg Piper sought clarification on who decides the biodiversity offset generation at each offset site. Mr Stafford responded that the Native Markets and Offsets (NMO) division reviews the vegetation mapping and calculates the credit generation. DPHI assesses the habitat of all species that are impacted and determines the credit obligation. The extent of biodiversity offsets required is detailed in the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement.
- Mr Stafford discussed the submissions lodged to the Central West-Orana Regional Energy Zone (CWO REZ) Tender and potential to bid into the Capacity Investment Scheme. He noted Tilt has applied to EnergyCo to connect to the CWO REZ.
- Mr Stafford and Mr Daly then outlined the various community funding programs. <https://www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/cebp>
- Mr Stafford provided an update on the status of the proposed gravel quarry to support the project. He noted that lodgement of a Project Application was imminent but was unsure as to how long the determination process would take. He indicated that a variety of options are under consideration should a determination on the quarry application be protracted. Kathy Rindfleish questioned how road impacts will be addressed given the possible uncertainty regarding the location and source of quarry material. Mr Stafford advised various scenarios on the source options are being examined with discussions to proceed with Council on road impacts should alternative sources for gravel be required.
- Ms Ryan questioned the impact on the groundwater system in the vicinity of the proposed TWA. Ms Ryan asked whether a groundwater study had been completed on zones surrounding the proposed TWA site. Mr

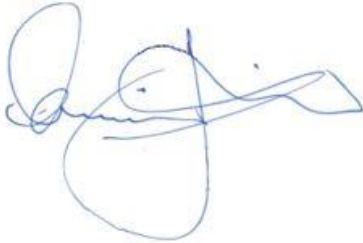
Stafford advised that baseline groundwater data had been obtained and that assessment of nearby bores had been undertaken. Applications for Water Access Licenses (WAL) will be lodged with WaterNSW. Mr Stafford took on notice the question regarding the extent of groundwater investigation information that is required to support a WAL application with WaterNSW..

ACTION

- In support of Ms Ryan's question regarding the potential impact on the groundwater, Ms Rindfleish noted the proximity of the TWA to Coolah and the potential to impact the aquifers that service the town's water supply.

8.2 Communications Update

- Nick Daly introduced himself and provided a brief overview of his career prior to joining Tilt. He then provided an overview of recent communication activities.
- Mr Daly referred to Factsheets maps and photomontages available at the Coolah Shopfront
- Mr Daly advised on the TAFE MicroSkills course which is designed as a course for High School students to develop interest in employment in the renewable energy sector. In response to a question from Ms Hegarty and Matt Clarkson, Anne-Louise Capel advised that TAFE NSW have also developed an online course specific to the wind energy industry with a five-hour duration and be a taster for what skills are required and the technical areas where employment will be required in the future. Ms Hegarty question how information on the course can be obtained. Mr Daly advised other generators are also involved with the course expected to be up and running by early 2025. He will keep the CCC abreast of developments.
- Mr Daly stepped the Committee through future engagement activities and recent community sponsorships as well as future support for community events.
- In conclusion, Mr Daly outlined the next steps in the progression of the project, noting a possible construction start mid-2025.
- Ms Hegarty requested an outline on what 'start of construction' will look like – viz. road upgrades, TWA establishment etc? In response Mr Stafford advised that the first component will relate to public road upgrades with the first element being the upgrade of Vinegaroy Road to cater for heavy vehicle access. The southern turbine cluster is expected to be the first area to be constructed – from there the project is likely to head in a northerly direction. In terms of the TWA, a starter camp will initially be established and be increased in capacity as construction on the project expands.
- Mr Piper sought information on the Modification determination and the quarry Project Application. Mr Stafford advised he could not confirm when the Modification would be determined – this is a matter for the DPHI. Ant Martin understood the Project Application for the quarry would be lodged within the coming week. Mr Stafford reiterated that timelines for processing and determination of these application was a matter for the DPHI.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Clarkson sought clarification on the status of the quarry relative to the windfarm project. Mr Stafford advised the quarry is a stand-alone State Significant Development and will operate independent of the determination for the windfarm. • The Chair enquired as to the financial viability of the project. Mr Stafford responded that there is considerable financial interest in the project. The main concern is ensuring timely approvals to allow the project to proceed.
<p>9. Other Agenda Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>10. Actions Required</p>	<p>10.1 Inputs into Water Access Licence (WAL) groundwater application: That Tilt confirms the information that must be provided to WaterNSW to support a Water Access Licence (WAL) application particularly in relation to the establishment of a Temporary Worker’s Accommodation facility near Coolah.</p>
<p>11. General Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>12. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Meeting closed: 2.20 pm. The Chair thanked all for their attendance.</p> <p>Next meeting: Proposed for November 2024 – date TBC</p>
<p>13. Meeting minutes approved</p>	 <p>Michael J. Silver OAM Independent Chair 24 September 2024</p>