



# MEETING MINUTES

<b>Meeting title</b>	<b>RYE PARK Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC). Meeting #36</b>		
<b>Attendees</b>			
David Johnson (Independent Chair) (DJ)	Nicole Brewer - Dept Planning, H & I (NB)		
Andrew Field (Community Member) (AF)	Anthony Koh - Dept Planning, H & I (AK)		
Owen Boushel, - Manager Stakeholder Engagement, Tilt Renewables (OB)	Julia Green - Dept Planning, H & I (JG)		
James Beckett - Manager, Planning & Env, Tilt Renewables (JB)	Kurtis Wathen - Dept Planning, H & I (KW)		
Federica Frew - Community & Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, Tilt Renewables (FF)			
<b>Apologies</b>			
Christine Hawkins (Community Member) (CH)	Mike Gilmour (Community Member) (MG)		
Jayne Apps (Community Member) (JA)			
Claude Morson (Community Member) (CM)			
<b>Location</b>	Clubhouse Hotel, Comur Street, Yass	<b>Date &amp; start time</b>	<b>29 October 2024 at 7.05 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 the Ngunnawal and Wiradjuri 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 Federica Frew, Community &amp; Stakeholder Eng Advisor, with Tilt Renewables, who will be the principal Tilt Community and Stakeholder contact for the project going forward.</li> <li>DJ welcomed the four officers from the Dept Planning, Housing &amp; Infrastructure (NB, AK, JG, KW) and thanked them for being in attendance.</li> <li>DJ noted that no council reps are present and he has not yet been advised as to who will be nominated for the CCC since the council elections.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Declarations of Interest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional declarations.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DJ referred to external email correspondence with the three councils, re aviation lighting; he also noted email exchanges with DPHI on the same subject.</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 (#35) on 4 June 2024, 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>	<p><u>Action Items:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DJ to contact DPHI and the 3 councils re aviation lights - <b>COMPLETE</b> (no response received from Hilltops or UL councils; positive reply from Yass Valley Council);</li> <li>Tilt to contact AF re noise monitoring – Bree W contacted AF, but no further action as noise monitoring is yet to commence. Tilt (OB) undertook to liaise with operations team and Sonus to confirm when noise monitoring will go ahead and pass on details to AF. OB encouraged AF to raise noise complaints so Tilt can investigate with Vestas and Tilt operations team. AF reports significant sleep disturbance to his family, believed to be low-frequency noise, and will be arranging for his own monitoring as impacts are proving much greater than expected. AF noted the importance of monitoring for low-frequency noise. NB noted the government’s policy re noise monitoring and compliance and which are part of the approval, and can include consideration of low-frequency noise. <b>Action to remain OPEN.</b> FF to activate.</li> <li>Tilt to provide contact details in next newsletter re Telecommunications surveys and rectification.. There has not been a newsletter since the last CCC meeting but one will be distributed before the end of the year. Tilt has service providers who can attend and investigate difficulties and resolve. OB encouraged anyone experiencing reception problems to make a complaint or contact Tilt for assistance. <b>Action to remain OPEN.</b></li> <li>As for item 3, but regarding visual mitigation and planting. To be included in next newsletter also. <b>Action to remain OPEN.</b></li> </ol>
<p><b>7. Proponent’s Report</b></p>	<p>See also <u>Presentation Notes</u> provided.</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 JB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All 66 turbines are now producing power and the project is in full operation. 55% of the power from the wind farm goes to the Cadia mining operation, south of Orange; the rest goes to the NSW grid.</li> <li>The Tilt team for RPWF has now changed and the key contacts are Federica Frew (FF, present) and Sam Mar (Asset Management), who is an apology tonight.</li> <li>Contact details remain the same <a href="mailto:ryeparkwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com">ryeparkwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com</a> and phone 1800 938 458.</li> <li>537 GWh generated over last 6 months; one of the largest windfarms in NSW (only one larger), and one of the best performing Vestas projects in the world.</li> <li>The current 3-monthly service about to be completed.</li> </ul> <p>ENVIRONMENT &amp; COMPLIANCE (OB, JB) – slide 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No environmental incidents or non-compliances since last CCC;</li> <li>Three television reception complaints.</li> <li>Noise monitoring scheduled during next couple of months (<b>ACTION ITEM</b>).</li> </ul>

- BIODIVERSITY – on-site rehabilitation completed but monitoring continues until criteria are met);
- All biodiversity offset credits now retired; AF voiced his lack of faith in the value of the offsets system; NB outlined the way the system works the value in ensuring land is retained in perpetuity as protected.
- Bird & bat monitoring continues as required (JB) by consultants and the Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP) is moving into operational phase.
- Independent audit of compliance conditions and Operational Plans now underway.
- Complaints management procedures and Complaints Management Plan available on the project webpage.

#### MODIFICATION APPLICATION

- Tilt are considering submitting a modification for an alternative more central operations and management compound (as per last CCC minutes) and are in discussions prior to lodgement with DPHI.
- AF claimed that Tilt and contractors are already using non-approved access locations for light vehicles, and also that this occurs 7 days a week, not 5.
- AF noted his concerns that six or seven project vehicles are using unintended roads to access the site (such as the Rye Park-Dalton Rd, past his house, which is unsealed but should have been) and very often speeding. AF believes that the six or seven vehicles using the road daily is a significant impact, which will continue for at least 30 years, for the residents in his area – and warrants some improvements, regrading and sealing to reduce the impacts in that area.
- OB noted that they are assessing the traffic impact of the six or seven vehicles that would use the road. AF would like to see some improvements which would be a beneficial gesture to the community, possibly as part of the conditions to the proposed Mod application. Tilt noted AF's feedback.

#### STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (slide 8)

- Newsletter to go out before end of year.
- CCC meetings to continue on bi-annual basis, with FF convening and attending for Tilt in future.

#### BENEFIT SHARING (slide 9)

- All VPA funding for the 2024-25 financial year has been paid to councils, via the Community Enhancement Funds, as follows:  
Hilltops \$162,500; Upper Lachlan \$40,000; Yass Valley \$27,500
- Tilt is represented on the council committees, which also have community reps, for recommending allocations of funds.
- Tilt is sponsoring the 2024 Boorowa Irish Wool Fest.

## 8. General Business

- AF asked if in planning wind farms what consideration is given to ‘whole of life’ assessment and overall cost/benefit analyses. OB replied that work has been done in this area and noted Vestas carried out a study that indicated the overall ‘whole of life’ cost to offset a wind farm such as RPWF was estimated at about 6 or 7 months of power production. NB commented that the ‘whole of life’ costs are not covered in the Env. Planning & Assessment Act; AF believes this should be included in the assessment of such projects by government. OB noted that the life of such projects are usually longer than anticipated – no grid connected wind farms in Australia have yet been decommissioned (eg. RPWF has a 30year+ life but is likely to be kept operative for much longer.) End of life decommissioning would be undertaken in consultation with landowners.
- AVIATION LIGHTING:  
DJ reported that the only response he had from his emails on this subject to each of the three councils was from Yass Valley, who expressed support for the community’s request for them to be switched off. NB provided some background and advised that in the case of Bialla wind farm CASA did not require lighting, but Dept of Defence did – but then changed their position and did not require them, so the lights were then turned off. Bango and Rye Park WFs are different, and CASA have advised that they are required, so DPHI are unable to override CASA recommendations. If Tilt were to approach CASA and request a review of that recommendation, then DPHI would only change their position if CASA were to change their requirement. It is also possible for the intensity of the lighting to be reduced if agreed by CASA, as has happened elsewhere in the past. Tilt agreed that they would approach CASA again in this regard (**ACTION ITEM**). AF noted that Tilt needs to be more pro-active in this space with authorities involved.
- AF asked why work is currently taking place 7 days per week? OB offered to contact Vestas and determine whether this is happening and why (**ACTION ITEM, see 4 below**). AF noted that there were almost no days when work did not take place, including Sundays & public holidays, and even if works on turbines were inaudible to residents the traffic impacts affect the whole community (including non-involved landowners).
- Chris Hawkins (CH), an apology for this meeting, sent four questions as follows, with answers from Tilt in *Italics*:
  1. Why was a large coach on the internal road a few weeks ago ? – *OB noted that there have been a few groups come to visit the site on occasions. And a semi-trailer this morning ? – unsure, probably a delivery. Are other (external) large vehicles using the internal road because the Blakeney Creek Rd is unusable ? - OB noted that only project staff or landowners can use it.*
  2. When is sound monitoring to be done ? - *OB replied that will commence before the end of the year, by consultants Sonus.*
  3. Is internet reception likely to be impacted, and TV/radio, as it has been worse than usual since turbines commenced ? - *OB said TV & radio will be addressed by a technician who will attend; internet effects depend on the type*

	<p><i>of internet connection – cable or satellite should not be affected, but other forms of connection may be, and will require a technician to visit and investigate. Tilt will contact CH and make arrangements with her for technicians to visit and resolve (ACTION ITEM).</i></p> <p>4. Why are project staff still working 7 days a week, as they have since construction started ? They have showed little respect for the lifestyle of neighbours throughout the works. – OB said he was unsure whether this was continuing or why it is needed at the moment or in future, but would find out and report back to the group as soon as possible. NB noted that this is not necessarily a non-compliance, as Tilt should have gone through the process of gaining approval for out-of-hours works. Tilt to follow up and advise as to the reasons for any current or on-going works on weekends <b>(ACTION ITEM)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AF asked about the road dilapidation surveys and liaison with councils, which is ongoing. OB undertook to investigate with the Tilt team and confirm the status <b>(ACTION ITEM)</b>. NB noted that the dilapidation surveys are required within one month of construction completion for the OSOM routes.</li> <li>• In relation to compliance matters, NB noted that within 3 months of completion, an independent audit is required to be carried out of all consent requirements; if any issues arise for residents, complaints can be made and the DPHI compliance team (Katrina O'Reilly) can be contacted.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Other Agenda Items</b></p> <p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>None</p> <p><b>Meeting closed:</b> 9.00 pm.</p> <p><b>Next meeting</b> is scheduled for <b>Tuesday 1 April 2025, at 7pm</b>, either in <u>Yass</u> (at the Clubhouse Hotel, Comur Street Yass) or, at <u>Rye Park</u> in association with an on-site tour if that can be arranged (to be advised).</p> <p><b>ACTIONS REQUIRED:</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Three Action Items from previous CCC meeting (4 June 2024) remain OPEN – see page 4 above.</p> <p><b>New Action Items:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tilt (FF) to notify the committee when noise monitoring is to occur; Also to follow up with AF (see previous Action item 2);</li> <li>2. Tilt to contact CASA in relation to aviation lighting with a view to having the lights turned off, or reduced in intensity;</li> <li>3. Tilt to confirm with Vestas regarding current working hours and need for weekend and public holiday work, and to advise committee;</li> <li>4. Tilt to contact Chris Hawkins (CH) re internet/TV/radio connectivity and interference;</li> <li>5. Tilt to confirm with Tilt team and councils regarding the status of road dilapidation surveys;</li> </ol>



6. DJ to contact each council regarding appointing representatives to the CCC.