

MINUTES OF BOCO ROCK WIND FARM COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC)

9.00am, Tuesday 24th February 2015 Nimmitabel Community Centre

Attendees

Howard Charles (HC)

Richard Lawson (RL)

Landholder (host)

Community Member

Fiona Taylor (FT)

Ed Mounsey (EM)

Mark Wiggins (MW)

Community Member/Neighbouring Landholder

CWP Renewables – Head of Development

Operations Manager, Boco Rock Wind Farm

Brett Jones (BJ) COO, Boco Rock Wind Farm

Siobhan Isherwood (SI) CWP Renewables

Mark Fleming (MF)

Office of Environment & Heritage (Observer)

Lisa Andrews (LA)

Independent Chair

Absent

Cr Dean Lynch (DL) Cooma-Monaro Council

Cr Brad Yelds (BY)

Bill Garnock (BG)

John Harrington (JH)

Bombala Council

Community Member

Community Member

Apologies

Fr Sergei Shatrov (SS) Community Member

Item	Action
1.0 Welcome and Introductions	
Meeting opened at 9.10am.	
Lisa Andrews welcomed the attendees and asked	
that those present complete the Attendance	
Sheet.	
2.0 Apologies	Fr Sergei Shatrov (SS)
3.0 Declarations of Interest	LA declared that she was an Independent Chair engaged by CWP to chair the CCC meeting. Brett Jones, Mark Wiggins and Siobhan Isherwood were introduced as ongoing representatives of Boco Rock Wind Farm on the CCC.
4.0 Confirmation of previous minutes	Motion: That the draft minutes be confirmed (with edited footer). Moved Richard Lawson Seconded Fiona Taylor Accepted

5.0 Business arising

Action items from previous minutes.

Item	Issue	
	Link to "App" from Office of Environment &	
1	Heritage (Mark Fleming)	
2	Future meeting schedule (Lisa Andrews)	
3	Feedback from inaugural Community Fund	
	Meeting (Ed Mounsey and Richard Lawson)	
4	Email to CCC members regarding their role at	
	the Open Day (Lisa Andrews)	

Item 1: Not yet available, Mark Fleming will keep the committee posted.

Item 2: Agreed to set meeting schedule at 2 meetings per year in May and November.

Item 3: Ed provided feedback that Community Fund Committee has drafted terms of reference and established a draft process. At Bombala Council this will include grants for under \$2,000 and over \$2000. Applications close at the end of March 2015. Cooma-Monaro Council are still drafting its terms of reference with the intention of having a second round at the end of the year. Item 4: Refer to correspondence.

6.0 Correspondence

- 17/11/14 Email to CCC Members with draft minutes and copy of Adrian Oakey's presentation;
- 21/11/14 Email to CCC Members reminding of Open Day and Role of CCC members;
- 16/1/15 Email from Fr Sergei Shatrov with questions regarding the Bushfire Management Plan for the BRWF site;
- 22/1/15 Email from Fr Shatrov asking if CWP had any comment regarding the Pacific Hydro noise report;
- 29/1/15 Email response provided to all CCC members with answers to these questions as well as attaching the Emergency Response Plan and the Hot Works Protocol;
- 7/2/15 Email from Will Stone about CWP's unsuccessful bid for the Canberra wind auction; and
- 15/2/15 Email to and from Fiona Taylor regarding the proposed wind turbine blade display at Bombala.

Moved Lisa Andrews
Seconded Howard Charles
Accepted

7.0 Boco Rock Project Update (MW) Demobilisation of the construction works on site is underway, including demobilisation of the batch plant (undertaken last year, and reseeded) and construction compound (top soiling now underway) Rehabilitation on site - predominantly reseeding and weed spraying is underway throughout the project site on all disturbed ground. The whole wind farm is now online, with some ongoing tests being undertaken before final sign off from the market regulator. The Project Site Office is now at the substation. BRWF are working with Essential Energy while they build a new 132 kV transmission line to Bega. Data to date demonstrates a highly efficient harvesting of available wind resource (98-99%). Decomposed granite removed from the construction compound has been gifted Council for road base and will be stockpiled in agreement with Council and the relevant landowner. **8.0 Community Concerns** Nothing submitted. 9.0 General Business **Bushfire Management Plan (MW):** Reports that he attended the Local Emergency Response Committee to review the BRWF Emergency Management Plan (EMP). The plan outlines processes to be undertaken with respect to all hot/hazardous works on site. Maps of the site have been provided at site entrances, which has been acknowledged by the RFS. It has the provision of additional fire breaks within the on-site roads. BRWF receives notices from Cooma-Monaro LEMC. Action: HC to add MW to the Nimmitabel RFS email list. Pacific Hydro Report (EM): Pacific Hydro are wind farm developers/operators. At one of their Victorian projects they commissioned a noise study at the request of some community members to evaluate health impacts.

The company agreed to the scope of the study with neighbours, and allowed the neighbours to elect the noise consultant. The consultant hired, Steven Cooper, is known within the industry as a

consultant who performs work for anti wind farm groups.

The media has picked up the story, but the study was not rigorous, and in fact looked at only 6 people (who had already complained of health effects) living in 3 houses.

On another note, the NHMRC has released their latest findings, which are consistent with their previous reporting.

As well, the South Australian EPA undertook a study in late 2013 which was also consistent with the NHMRC findings (this added by RL).

Action: Ed to provide links to studies mentioned and an article regarding the Pacific Hydro study.

HC noted that while he can't speak for everyone, noise is not an issue for his family, with no sensations or nuisance felt.

BRWF Spare blade (FT):

FT stated that Bombala Council had rejected the blade in a recent Council meeting, advising that she and SS had both written to Bombala Council opposing the blade display. FT queried if this would reopen the blade discussion at Nimmitabel.

Action: SI stated that she hadn't received a response from Bombala Council but would follow up the matter and advise the CCC.

RL confirmed that the Nimmitabel Advancement Group would not reopen the debate unless a blade became available. If/when it does, NAG may look at it again.

FT asked why the community would want to highlight the division that the wind farm has caused?

RL and HC both commented that having a blade in Nimmitabel would be about stopping cars in Nimmitabel, and that the idea had received a lot of support from businesses in Nimmitabel.

RL also noted that no project would ever have 100% community support, some people see it as modern art, others as a link between the past and future. RL provided an image that depicts what the blade would look like in situ (noting the absence of transport cradles from the image).

HC noted that there is already a lot of infrastructure around Lake Williams.

MF added that recent polling has been done on attitudes to wind farms, and early results show there is a standard very high acceptance of wind farms across the State.

EM noted that SERREE (South East Region of Renewable Energy Excellence) is looking into a Renewable Energy Trail which Boco Rock could be involved in.

Stage Two Developments (EM):

BRWF wasn't successful in its bid for the first round. There will be a second round, which is likely to occur after the ACT election (perhaps Sept 2016). It is yet to be seen that the successful projects will be financed, there have been big changes since the decision was made, including changes in the \$AUS.

Other than that, Stage Two is still reliant on another form of off-take, likely to be generated through the RET mechanism. There has been renewed vigour in negotiations after recent political events.

Future Meetings

It was agreed that the CCC would sit twice a year during the Wind Farm's operations, in May and November (with the chair able to call an extraordinary meeting as required).

Ongoing Attendance (EM):

EM noted that he will no longer be attending meetings after this CCC until Stage Two again requires discussion.

LA thanked EM for his contribution and welcomed him back at any time.

10.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CCC will be held in the Nimmitabel Community Hall on Tuesday 5th May 2015 at 9am.

The following meeting to be held Tuesday 17th November 2015.

Meeting closed 10.18am

Action Items:

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Howard Charles to add Mark Wiggins to the Nimmitabel RFS email list.	Howard Charles
2	Ed Mounsey to provide links to reports and articles regarding health discussed in the	Ed Mounsey
	meeting	
3	Siobhan Isherwood to seek feedback from Bombala Council regarding the blade	Siobhan
	display	Isherwood