



**BANGO WIND FARM
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

CCC MEETING #3 MINUTES

Monday 16th November 2015
Community Centre, Yass Valley Way, Yass

Attendees:

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chair
Siobhan Isherwood (SI)	CWP Renewables
Thomas McGrath (TM)	Host Landholder Representative
Terry Sellwood (TS)	Community Representative
Jayne Apps (JA)	Boorowa District Landscape Guardians
Cr Rowena Abbey (RA)	Mayor – Yass Valley Council
Cr Ann Daniel (AD)	Councillor - Yass Valley Council
Nicole Brewer (NB)	Department of Planning and Environment
Diana Charteris (DC)	Department of Planning and Environment
Andrew Winterflood (AW)	Community Representative
Cr Wendy Tuckerman (WT)	Mayor – Boorowa Council

Apologies:

Nil

Meeting commenced at 12:10pm.

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the third meeting of the Bango Wind Farm (BWF) Community Consultative Committee (CCC), hosted by CWP Renewables. Each person was invited to introduce themselves and state their position on the Committee.

The representatives from the Department of Planning and Environment (NB & DC) were introduced.

Apologies

Nil

Declaration of Interest

The Chair declared her interest as Independent Chair of the BWF CCC, engaged by CWP Renewables.

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes of CCC #2 were confirmed by TM and seconded by JA.

Business Arising

1. Chair to send out a copy of Clean Technica Report to CCC members
2. Chair to write to Yass Valley and Boorowa Councils seeking nominations for alternates

Both these items were actioned and are covered in Correspondence.

Correspondence

- 21 May 2014 – Letter to the General Manager of Boorowa Council seeking an alternate representative on the CCC in the event that Mayor Tuckerman is unable to attend.
- 21 May 2014 – Letter to the General Manager of Yass Valley Council seeking an alternate representative on the CCC in the event that Cr Ann Daniel is unable to attend.
- 26 May 2014 – Email from Chair to CCC members with the Draft Minutes of the Bango Wind Farm CCC held on 6th May 2014. Also attaching the Clean Technica Report on property values.
- 24 June 2014 – Letter from Mayor Tuckerman of Boorowa Council advising that Council had approved an alternate member to attend the meetings if the Mayor is unable to attend.
- 4 November 2015 – Email to CCC members proposing that a CCC meeting be held.
- 10 November 2015 – Email to CCC members with Meeting Notice & Agenda, confirming that the meeting would proceed on Monday 16 November with representatives from the Department of Planning & Environment attending.

Moved: LA

Seconded: AW

Reports and Updates

SI has taken over as the project officer for the Bango Wind Farm from Adrian Maddocks and explained her role and previous history with community engagement with other wind farm proposals & operations. SI gave an overview of where the project is currently at, including the recent review of the Renewable Energy Target (RET) that was carried out by the federal government.

There was some confusion with members regarding the location of the wind turbines on the site map, which was later confirmed to be the map that was included with the presentation and attached with the draft Minutes of the CCC Meeting held on 8 August 2013 and emailed to CCC members. Concerns were raised that this map did not appear on the Bango Wind Farm website.

Action: Map to be placed on BWF website.

Questions that arose from presentation were:

Q. Are the historical changes to the layout, (removing turbines to the south of the current proposal) based on feedback from the community?

A. The decision to remove turbines to the south of the current proposal was based on lengthy discussions with community stakeholders, and reflected a high level of subdivision in that area.

Q. It is understood that one turbine is 1.7km from a residence?

A. SI to take on notice to clarify.

Action: Location of closest turbine has been confirmed as 1.7km.

Q. A further request was made for an independent study on the effect of the proposed wind farm on property values.

A. This was previously addressed at the last meeting, following formal response from the Department of Planning and Environment. NB confirmed that the social impact study is not required to include the effect on property values.

Action: Chair to send a copy of the DPE's previous response.

Q. Concerns were raised about an independent survey on those for and against windfarms, with the figures quoted as being 75% for, now being reversed?

A. Independent population wide surveys have most consistently resulted in a high level of public support for wind farms, including those residents living in regional areas. At the end of the day, the DPE will determine support for a project based on a number of methods, however primarily through the submissions process.

Presentation by Nicole Brewer – Department of Planning & Environment

A presentation was given by NB explaining the process of the Project being assessed under Part 4 State Significant Development (including the Bango Wind Farm) and provided a flow chart of the planning process. NB explained the Exhibition Phase and how submissions are considered through to the final determination by the Planning Assessment Commission, which is an independent body.

Questions were asked and answered concerning:

- Decommissioning, bonds, underground and above ground connections, access tracks, etc.
- That three wind farm projects are proposed in the same region and their cumulative impacts.
 - Each Project is required to undertake a cumulative assessment of a range of impacts, that specifically considers the other projects in the area that are identified by the assessment requirements
- Community Funds
 - A Community Fund will be established by the Project consisting of \$2,500 per turbine per annum. This fund will be split appropriately between the Boorowa Council and Yass Valley Council. The Fund will be managed by an independent body, in a manner to be determined prior to construction for distribution to community projects following application and approval.
- Social Impact Study – inclusion of mental health issues.
 - This is not specifically required by the Assessment Requirements for the Project, but an analysis of health impacts is required for the EIS

Questions & Answers – incorporating General Business

There was discussion about micro-siting, and whether or not turbine locations can or should be made more specific prior to Project approval. SI responded that flexibility (including a 100m micro-siting allowance and two layout options) needs to be retained so that refinement can take place in the pre-construction phase. NB confirmed that a 100m micro-siting envelope is standard.

Suggestion to discuss geology of the site with Australia Pipeline following their difficulties laying a pipeline to the north of the Project in the past.

Confirmation that a number of batching plant location options are proposed for the Project. This provides for the flexibility of producing concrete on-site. During construction, access to water and gravel will be licensed by the appropriate bodies, including Department of Primary & Industries, NSW Office of Water etc. Sources of water and road base will be investigated, and a range of options presented in the EIS to retain flexibility during the pre-construction phase. No construction work which requires licensing will be undertaken without said licences.

Request for documents placed on exhibition to be placed on a USB thumb drive for distribution to interested community members.

Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the CCC meeting be held alternately between Yass and Boorowa, with the next meeting to be held at the Old Council Chambers, Boorowa.

Date to be confirmed – two weeks after the proposal goes on exhibition, however, will be in the first quarter of 2016 (commencing at 12noon).

Meeting closed at 1:55pm.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1 Map to be placed on BWF website.**
- 2 Location and proximity of turbine to closest resident.**
- 3 Chair to send a copy of the DPE's previous response.**

Attachments

- Minutes from Previous CCC Meetings
- Project Location Map
- Previous response from DPE regarding property values