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<b>Date/Time:</b>	Thursday, 3 December 2015 1.00-3.00pm
<b>Location:</b>	Council Chambers, Gunning 123 Yass Street, Gunning
<b>Attendees:</b>	Nic Carmody (NC), Chairperson Mayor John Shaw (JS), Upper Lachlan Shire Council Representative Kathy Cosgrove (KC), Committee Member Vince Heffernan (VH), Committee Member Annmaree Lavery (AL) (Newtricity), Applicant Representative Murray Curtis (MC) (ERM), Applicant Representative Mark Fleming (MF), Regional Clean Energy Program Coordinator, Office of Environment and Heritage (Observer)
<b>Observer:</b>	
<b>Apologies:</b>	John McCue, Committee Member Charles Knight, Committee Member Charlie Prell, Australian Wind Alliance (Observer)

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## **SUMMARY NOTES OF MEETING**

<b>1. Welcome and Introduction</b>
Nic Carmody welcomed everyone to the third CCC Meeting.  John McCue and Charles Knight (committee members); and Charlie Prell (observer) were apologies.  Mark Fleming was introduced as Chris Mackenzie Davey replacement from OEHL as an observer.
<b>2. CCC Meeting Notes</b>
CCC #2 meeting notes were adopted.
<b>3. Project Update</b>
MC provided the following update on the Project status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The exhibition period for the Biala Wind Farm EIS closed on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015. DP&amp;E provided a two week extension for one community member.</li><li>• DP&amp;E provided ERM a copy of all submissions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 11 Government agency submissions</li><li>○ 39 public/community group</li></ul></li></ul> A summary of the submissions is provided as <b>Attachment A</b> to these meeting notes.

- A Submissions Report is currently being prepared for submission to DP&E. ERM is aiming to submit the report on 21 December 2015 subject to receipt of further comments from Upper Lachlan Shire Council regarding road and traffic issues.
- DP&E have two weeks to respond to the Submissions Report should it require further information.
- The approval process will continue once the Submission Report is received by DP&E through the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC).

Meetings with Government authorities:

- Newtricity & ERM met with DP&E to discuss the submissions and the approach for the Submissions Report. The key issues discussed included:
  - DP&E will conduct a site inspection during which it will meet with one community member on-site and representatives from the Grabben Gullen Progress Association.
  - Visual Impacts –DP&E will commission a visual impact assessment consultant to attend the site inspection and provide a review of the visual impact assessment in the EIS. ERM provided a brief description on how the photomontages were prepared.
  - Flora and Fauna – ERM has committed to meeting OEHL onsite to discuss comments raised regarding flora and fauna. Outstanding issues will be detailed in a response provided in the Submissions Report.
  - Traffic Impacts – DP&E requested Newtricity meet with Upper Lachlan Shire Council to clarify its requirements such that Council provide response confirming it and Newtricity have agreement on outstanding issues. Newtricity, ERM, the traffic consultants and Upper Lachlan Shire Council held a conference call to discuss the outstanding issues. A number of issues required confirmation onsite and a meeting was scheduled (see below).
- Newtricity, ERM and the traffic consultants met with Upper Lachlan Shire Council's engineers today to discuss issues around road upgrades and access intersection requirements. Based on this meeting Council will prepare a response to DP&E confirming agreements and that all issues have been closed-out.

AL confirmed that the route selection process for the transmission line was ongoing. Newtricity continues to discuss with property owners potential easement locations.

#### **4. General Items for Discussion**

- VH mentioned community concerned that Newtricity will get DA for wind farm and then force landowners to have transmission line through their property. AL & MC explained that it is not possible to do this as Newtricity have to get landowners permission to put transmission line across their properties – Newtricity cannot force the owners to do this.
- VH asks why Newtricity was unable to install signage on the side of the road at the northern and southern ends of where the proposed wind farm would be as proposed in previous CCC meetings. AL confirmed that Upper Lachlan Shire Council was approached on 8/9/15 to find out what would be required to do this. Council

confirmed that such a proposal was not exempt development even if the signs were within the size allowed for exempt development as they were not for an approved land use on the relevant properties. Council said that a DA would be required for each sign but it would be unlikely to be approved as the wind farm is not established nor approved. The installation of a sign was also discussed with Council engineers this morning during our onsite meeting – and was told that they would not agree to it until construction was ready to commence – as it would be too big a distraction for drivers and therefore dangerous. Some members of the CCC feel that the community would benefit from such a sign and that the DP&E might consider making this a mandatory requirement.

- VH asked about how aboriginal elders were approached to assist in the heritage work for the DA. MC explained the process which followed the OEH guidelines.
- NC said he had a phone call from Tracy at DP&E as someone from the Grabben Gullen Progress Association had complained that they had not been consulted at all as part of the community consultation despite being a local stakeholder. NC explained to her that the community has been consulted via newsletters, website, open days and advertising in papers and on radio so felt Newtricity was consulting with the community.

#### **5. Next Steps and Close**

Draft meeting notes to be sent to NC who would circulate allowing 2 weeks for comments.

Any comments questions or changes to be notified to NC as soon as possible.

The meeting notes will be placed on the website but will remain draft until next meeting.

Meeting notes to be made final once adopted by CCC meeting and website updated.

It was agreed that the next meeting take place in late March early April at the original agreed time of 12 noon.