

**BIALA WIND FARM  
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – MEETING 9**

<b>Date/Time:</b>	Tuesday, 29 January 2019 5pm – 7pm
<b>Location:</b>	Council Chambers, Gunning 123 Yass Street, Gunning
<b>Attendees:</b>	Nic Carmody (NC), Chairperson Councillor Paul Culhane (PC), Upper Lachlan Shire Council Representative Paul Hewitt (PH), Committee Member Shane Laverty (SL), Committee Member George Shepherd (GS), Committee Member Charlie Prell (CP), Observer Tim Mead (TM), (Beijing Jingneng Clean Energy), Applicant Representative Robbie Williamson (RW) (Beijing Jingneng Clean Energy), Applicant Representative
<b>Apologies:</b>	Kathy Cosgrove (KC), Committee Member John McCue (JM), Committee Member Vince Heffernan (VH), Committee Member

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES**

<b>1. Welcome and Introduction</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NC welcomed everyone to the 9<sup>th</sup> CCC meeting</li> <li>• Apology received from Kathy Cosgrove &amp; Vince Heffernan</li> <li>• KC commented that the timing change was not the best for her</li> <li>• Nothing heard from John McCue</li> </ul>
<b>2. Code of Conduct &amp; Agreement</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NC asked committee if there were any changes to the Declaration of Interest since the previous meeting:</li> <li>• PC declared non-pecuniary interest as Treasurer of the Crookwell Show Society as an agreement has been reached with the society for potential use of the showgrounds land for oversized component delivery to the wind farm.</li> </ul>
<b>3. CCC Meeting Minutes</b>
CCC #8 Meeting Minutes were adopted

<b>4. CCC Membership</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NC attached DPE approval letters for SL and GS applications to join the Committee to the agenda</li><li>• Jennifer Heffernan and Andrew Toza have expressed interest in joining but did not attend the meeting.</li></ul>
<b>5. TV Reception</b>
<b>Consultant Work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TM discussed re-transmission desktop study which has been performed by the TV consultant Satellite Television and Radio Australia (STRA). This study looks at the suitability of certain locations suggested by the Grabben Gullen Progress Association (GGPA) as well as any additional locations identified by STRA, for improving existing TV reception in Grabben Gullen. This report has been shared with the GGPA and will be circulated to CCC members along with these minutes.</li><li>• Baseline TV survey completed before Christmas to record the existing state of the TV reception in the area.</li></ul>
<b>Possible TV Signal Rectification</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TM explained that it is unknown if Biala Wind Farm will impact TV signal at any neighbouring residences</li><li>• TM stated that VAST boxes are a potential solution which could be implemented if residences are affected</li><li>• NC asked what the time scales of installation are<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ TM took on notice but explained the process is to first apply for a card and then get a contractor to install</li></ul></li><li>• GS re-iterated concerns with VAST as a solution due to lack of local news and local advertising<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ TM acknowledged BJCE is aware of these concerns from some community members</li></ul></li><li>• SL asked what will the solution be if there's only a couple of residences impacted by the wind farm?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ TM advised that VAST boxes are the standard windfarm solution as they can be installed quickly and provide secure TV reception</li><li>○ Still early and BJCE are looking into what options are available, if required</li><li>○ Difficult to predict the impact of the wind farm on TV signal until after the wind farm is built and further survey work is done</li></ul></li><li>• CP commented that he has a VAST box and receives all DTV channels. BJCE should look into what the latest VAST boxes offer</li><li>• PC suggested that local TV contractors are consulted to discuss potential options<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Shared the names of two local contractors for BJCE information</li></ul></li></ul>

- PC highlighted that Crookwell is technically classed as being part of the “Central Australia” zone for TV reception and the greater Grabben Gullen area is classed as having “fortuitous reception”.
  - NC suggested Grabben Gullen community could write to the government to challenge the classification as “Central Australia” for TV zoning

## 6. Project Update

### JRPP Result

- TM announced that JRPP provided verbal approval of the transmission line DA at the public meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan but formal paperwork still pending
- TM committed that BJCE will circulate the conditions of consent once we received final paperwork (attached to these minutes).

### Connection

- Transgrid granted approval for Biala Wind Farm to connect to the grid in December 2018

### Major Contractors

- TM explained the two main contractors – Turbine Supply & Install (TSI) and Balance of Plant (BOP) {civil and electrical works} – will be contracted and final negotiations can progress now that Transmission Line approved.
- TM provided latest estimate of high level construction timeline:
  - Enter contracts – Mid March 2019
  - BOP Mobilise to Site – late May / early June 2019
  - 6 to 8 months of the BOP on site for main civil and electrical works
  - Turbine delivery starts around January 2020
  - Turbine Installation 5 to 6 months till June 2020
- PC asked where water used during construction will come from.
  - TM advised that contractors will try to use onsite water subject to testing for suitability. Otherwise contractors will need to source this from elsewhere

### Other Works

- Met Masts
  - Installation of four met masts to begin once Transmission Line approval paperwork received (4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 tentative)
  - Re-iterated that at the end of last year BJCE had a modification approved to erect 4 masts instead of 3.
  - Two of these initial masts go on turbine locations and will be taken down so that turbines can go up. The other two are left in place for the life of the windfarm.
  - Met mast contractors expect to erect 1 mast per week and the masts will be 110m above ground level (the same as the turbine hub height)
  - GS requested that installed coordinates are shared with the RFS for inclusion in their maps / plans
- Kialla Road final seal (Feb / Mar)
- Range Road upgrade works (Mar)

- TM stated that BJCE proposed to follow same approach as for Kialla Road in communicating road works to the community
- PH suggested approaching the Crookwell Gazette to run a story

**Management Plans**

- TM advised that key management plans required to commence wind farm construction have been approved
- Noted that the Traffic Management Plan is staged and currently covers the BOP works. An additional plan will be produced for the TSI
- NC asked BJCE to provide link to relevant section of website:  
<http://bialawindfarm.com/the-project/project-approvals-and-documents/>

**6. General Items for Discussion**

- PH asked about the plans for public road upgrades
  - TM advised that there are plans for certain intersection which need to be upgraded to ensure safe site access and also for corners where the oversized deliveries will turn. Plans are being prepared but have not yet been submitted to Council for review. Offsite land agreements are in place with relevant landowners
- Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA\_ and Community Fund discussed
  - TM noted that Council have exhibited and endorsed the Biala Wind Farm VPA
  - CP offered general opinion that the value should be determined by MW rather than per turbines since turbines as getting larger. Also suggested that communities should be able to establish trusts to put some of the money into for future generations.
  - PC addressed previous concerns that council might choose to spend funds in other areas that are not considered community enhancement. PC is confident that the council will not do this.
- Land rates
  - CP introduced that there is talk of Council increasing land rates for landowners with turbines on their property and these costs being passed onto the developer.
  - PC responded that there is a feeling wind farms should be treated as commercial operations and that this could be a mechanism to allow Council to raise funds for the benefit of the community.
- SL provided some names of community members who wish to be contacted and felt their concerns weren't followed up on quickly enough.
  - TM responded that some of these had already been contacted and took note of the others to follow up
  - NC noted, and TM agreed, that if committee members are made aware of particular community concerns then they should contact BJCE directly so the query can be dealt with in a timely manner

**7. Next Steps and Close**

Next meeting 28<sup>th</sup> May, 5pm till 7pm  
 Meeting closed 7:00pm