

**BIALA WIND FARM
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – MEETING 14**

Date/Time:	Tuesday, 23 rd June 2020, 5pm
Location:	CWA Rooms, Spring Street, Crookwell
Attendees:	Nic Carmody (NC), Chairperson Paul Culhane (PC), Upper Lachlan Shire Council Representative Paul Hewitt (PH), Committee Member George Shepherd (GS), Committee Member Shane Laverty (SL), Committee Member Jenifer Heffernan (JH), Committee Member Tim Mead (TM), (BJCE), Applicant Representative Elizabeth Picker (EP, (BJCE), Community Liaison Officer Andy Wang (AW) (Goldwind), Turbine Supply & Installation Project Manager
Apologies:	Kathy Cosgrove (KC), Committee Member John McCue (JM), Committee Member Adam Lenihan (AL) (AECOM), Owner’s Construction Representative Robbie Williamson (RW) (BJCE), Applicant Representative

CONSOLIDATED ACTIONS LIST

- PC to discuss the damage on Grabben Gullen road with Council (carried over from meeting 11 & 12 minutes)
- BJCE to provide updated high level Biala program to CCC members (ongoing)
- NC to respond to Peter Gordon’s email
- BJCE to provide an update on the issue of delivery routes to site (ongoing)
- NC to circulate NWFC presentation and contact details to members
- BJCE to confirm if Biala and Gurrundah localities are within the 5km zone for the Community Enhancement Fund

SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NC welcomed everyone to the 14th CCC meeting - Apologies from KC, JM, AL and RW noted - NC explained the only correspondence received from the DPIE was about COVID-19
2. Code of Conduct & Agreement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Declaration of pecuniary or other interests: No change
3. CCC Meeting Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The minutes for the 13th meeting were agreed out of session and are on the website.
4. National Wind Farm Commissioner special presentation (via Zoom)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NC introduced and welcome Mr Andrew Dyer (NWFC) to BWF CCC meeting. - NWFC provided a brief overview of his role. Appointed in late 2015 in response to

community concerns about wind farms.

- NWFC provided a presentation (attached) of the latest annual report.
- NWFC highlighted the importance of community consultation and ensuring important messages are communicated to subcontractors, e.g. approved access roads.
- General discussion about why there were significantly more complaints in Victoria, compared to New South Wales. NWFC explained a lot of the projects in Victoria are older. The population centres are also more condensed. He described Victoria as an early adopter of wind energy.
- NWFC encouraged all members to read the annual report.
- NC and members thanked NWFC for his presentation and invited him to a face-to-face meeting when social distancing allows.
- **ACTION ITEM:** NC to circulate the NWFC's presentation to members.

5. Project Update

- **TM provided the following construction update:**
 - TM acknowledged the COVID-19 pandemic has been a difficult time for everyone. BJCE had implemented measures to minimise the likelihood of a COVID-19 case on-site, and had been able to continue construction throughout, with no cases on site to date. TM confirmed the project had reduced travel to site to essential personnel only.
 - CPP and CATCON have predominately finished works on site. CATCON has a small crew onsite for revegetation works. All turbine foundations, hard stands and roads are complete.
 - CATCON is scheduled to start constructing the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) building in the next week. It will be built on the temporary concrete batch location. TM confirmed using the same location will reduce additional disturbance to the land. The O&M building is scheduled to be completed in 3 – 4 months.
 - CPP has completed all of the underground cabling works, this includes the transmission line connection from BWF to GRWF. The substation extension is now complete and energised. A small CPP crew remain onsite to conduct the electrical terminations at each turbine location.
 - Goldwind Australia (GWA) mobilised in March 2020. 22 turbine sets have been delivered out of the 31. TM confirmed this is roughly 75% of the turbine components.
 - 22 'pre-installed' tower sections have been completed. Nine main installations have been completed. Target completion date for turbine erection is November 2020.
 - TM confirmed the first turbine was connected to the grid last Saturday (20th June 2020), which was a key milestone for the project. Ongoing electrical / mechanical / grid commissioning activities will continue to occur onsite.
- **TM provided the following Range Road update:**
 - Final seal and line marking has been completed.
 - ULSC is scheduled to inspect and sign off on the upgrade by the end of this week (28th June 2020). TM confirmed the construction signs will be removed, once the upgrade is signed off by ULSC.
 - GS explained there were a couple of issues with the old signs being thrown on the side of the road. GS also said there was an old tree that was removed, but the stump is still there and asked if it was planned to be removed. The stump is near Range Road and Grabben Gullen Road. TM will discuss with Contractor's.
 - TM confirmed the pothole has been identified as a defect with USLC and will be

fixed. ULSC has inspected it and would like to monitor it. TM confirmed ULSC will inspect it this week (by 28th June 2020) and if deemed a hazard it will be fixed, if not, it will be monitored for 12-months.

- **Turbine delivery discussion and update:**
 - TM advised that turbine component deliveries have progressed well and are expect to be complete by the end of July 2020.
 - General discussion about delivery trucks and some community issues raised with pilot vehicles. NC explained that any community concerns should be emailed to TM and the CCC immediately and not wait until the next meeting to raise these concerns.
 - JH queried whether the delivery vehicles have a scheduled stop along Kialla Rd between the Showgrounds and site. This would disrupt the residents who live along Kialla Rd. BJCE was not aware of this but would discuss with the delivery contractor.

- **TM provided the following Community Enhancement Fund update:**
 - TM explained the VPA in greater detail. More information is available on the BWF website. The committee will be made up of two councillors, two community representatives and one representative from BJCE. The committee will agree on a charter for the fund and how it will function. The Council has advised BJCE that the committee is likely to be assembled in May 2021.
The fund will activate once the project enters the operational phase. BJCE will pay into the fund every July.
 - JH asked about the process involved in forming the committee, for example, does the ULSC advertise? The Council has advised BJCE the traditional advertising process (The Voice, Crookwell Gazette and Goulburn Post). PC confirmed it would be advertised in The Voice.
 - TM explained projects within 5km for the first three years are prioritised under the VPA and then within 20kms thereafter. JH asked if the 5km radius includes Grabben Gullen and if Biala and Gurrundah localities are included. **ACTION ITEM: BJCE to check.**

- **TM provided the following landscape update:**
 - TM explained the visual mitigation plan and process under the conditions of consent.
 - JH explained she has an enquiry from a neighbour and asked if the mitigation is applicable to the residence or the entire property. TM confirmed it is only for the dwelling and curtilage. JH will update her neighbour.

- **TM provided the following neighbour program / inconvenience works update:**
 - TM explained BJCE previously launched a neighbour program and has also offered a one-off inconvenience payment for neighbours within 2.5km. TM confirmed the neighbours have been contacted. JH asked how much the one-off contribution is. TM confirmed it is \$5,000.
 - JH asked about the popularity of the neighbour program. TM confirmed some neighbours have signed up and some haven't yet. General discussion about the neighbour program and its requirements.

- **TM provided the following Wattle Creek update:**
 - TM explained the EPA received complaints relating to sediment laden water run-off into Wattle Creek on two occasions and the process undertaken by the EPA to investigate and resolve these. TM described the process and controls the project has implemented including, but not limited to diversion drains, increased sediment fences, straw bales, rock checks, and hydroseeding.
 - NC asked how many times has the DPIE visited. TM confirmed four times since construction commenced.

- **TM provided the following out of hours works (OOHW) update:**
 - TM explained BJCE received a notification from GWA they would introduce an overnight work crew. TM explained why the overnight works was introduced with a two-phase approach. TM confirmed GWA provided BJCE with desktop modelling about the noise levels. TM explained the conditions of consent regarding inaudible works.
 - TM explained there was a notification in the May newsletter and BJCE contacted nearby neighbours within 2.5km. TM confirmed GWA has conducted OOHW works twice since the community was notified.
 - TM confirmed the project received three complaints on the night the works commenced. The nature of the complaints included noise being heard from 5.5-6 kilometres away, noise impacting livestock and lighting.

6. Complaints

- **TM discussed the complaints register:**
 - *Dust*
 - Complaint received in February about dust blowing over Grabben Gullen Road.
 - TM explained nature of complaint and actions taken by BJCE to resolve the complaint.
 - *Machinery working on a total fire ban*
 - TM confirmed all machinery was working in accordance with site management plans.
 - *Turbine delivery – Kialla Road*
 - Received a complaint about the trucks impacting the edge of the public road. TM explained nature of complaint and actions taken by BJCE to resolve the complaint. Road edge will be fixed once deliveries are completed.
 - *Wattle Creek*
 - TM noted this complaint has already been discussed. Members agreed.
 - *Turbine deliveries – June*
 - Received a complaint from a resident that pilot drivers were parking in their driveway. TM explained it has been investigated, actions taken and the complainant has been followed up.
 - *Haulage routes – Range Road*
 - BJCE received a complaint via DPIE about a local contractor using Range Road for a heavy vehicle that could be connected with the wind farm project. BJCE is investigating this and will provide a response to DPIE.

7. General Discussion

- TM confirmed the blade viewing event for local school children has been postponed indefinitely, due to COVID-19.
- GS confirmed he will be inspecting the site and reviewing the bush fire management plans.
- JH asked why there is a bright red light on the turbine. TM confirmed the project is required by CASA, Australian Defence Force and Air Services to install aviation lighting. It is a requirement under the conditions of consent. 16 out of the 31 turbines will have aviation lighting.
- GS extended his gratitude to BWF for their contribution to the GGCPA War Memorial project.

8. Next Steps and Close

Next meeting: Tuesday 25th August 2020, 5.30pm

Location: TBC

Meeting closed: 7.30pm