

Minutes of Meeting

White Rock Wind Farm Community Consultation Committee

Present:	Colin Price	Mayor of Glen Innes Severn Council	CP
	Anthony Alliston Inverell Shire Council	Manager Development Services	AA
	Adam Anderson	Landowner	AAn
	Steve Toms	Chair	ST
	Peter Sniekers	Business NSW Government (Observer)	PS
	Lauren Zell	North East Regional Co-ordinator	LZ
		Regional Clean Energy Program (RCEP (Observer)	
	Clare Powell	Community Engagement Manager, GWA	CPo
	Adrian Maddocks	Project Representative, WRWF	AM

Apologies: Grant Ryan, Rob Dulhunty, Karen Weller, John Campbell, Marilyn Roden

Date: 5th November 2015

Venue: New England Club, Glen Innes

Purpose: Meeting No 2

Minutes:

Item	Agenda / Comment / Discussion	Action
	ST Chair opened the Community Consultation Committee (CCC) meeting at 1pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.	

1	Apologies received from Grant Ryan, Rob Dulhunty, Karen Weller, John Campbell and Marilyn Roden	
2	<p>Declaration of pecuniary or other interests.</p> <p>It was noted RD had declared his interest as a host landowner at the previous CCC meeting.</p>	
3	<p>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting on the 6th August 2015 were accepted.</p> <p>Motion to accept Minutes: <u>Moved by CP, Seconded by AA, Motion Carried.</u></p>	
4	<p>Business arising from previous minutes.</p> <p>Action on PS to follow up with John Michael, TAFE (Tamworth) about training courses. LZ provided introduction and CPo met with John Michael, discussed opportunities and happy to discuss/help. He was aware of the types of training which may be required.</p> <p>PS commented that TAFE requirements are demand driven, with much depending on whether wind farms go ahead.</p> <p>CPo had reviewed both Inverell Shire and Glen Innes Severn web pages on WRWF and contacted them about updates.</p> <p>AM distributed a map showing involved properties and neighbouring dwellings to the project. AM explained WRWF was unwilling to publically provide names and details of landowners and/or neighbours as information can be sensitive.</p>	
5	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>KW tendered her resignation from the CCC due to moving out of the area. The meeting accepted Karen's resignation and CPo to email KW thanking her for her participation in the CCC to date.</p>	CPo
6	<p>Project update including perspective on the Transgrid renewable energy hub</p> <p>CPo introduced AM to the committee as Project Representative for WRWF who would be more involved locally as the project moved forward. AM previously worked on the Sapphire project, north of the Gwydir Highway and is already very familiar with the area.</p> <p>CPo and AM talked through the Project Update Presentation. Below is a summary of questions and actions during the discussion.</p>	

	<p>AM summarised submission of CEMP and related approvals. PS mentioned RMS were currently under-resourced and took a long time to respond. AM explained RMS had been engaged early (along with other stakeholders) to proactively manage approval of the documents.</p> <p>AA asked if WRWF had a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in place yet. CPo/AM explained that WRWF did not require a PPA to proceed with construction, that it would fund the project from balance sheet (company money) and may seek a PPA later on.</p> <p>PS asked if Origin Energy could provide PPA, AM said they could offer a PPA like any other supplier. CPo mentioned delivering the 2020 target, and associated influences on commercial risks.</p> <p>LZ offered to provide Biobanking brochures to the committee/landowners if they were interested. LZ to send brochures to CPo for distribution. Discussion around size of foundations and quantity of concrete. CPo to provide figures on notice.</p> <p>CP confirmed that Glen Innes Severn Council would welcome a briefing. CP to email date and details to CPo.</p> <p><u>Transgrid Renewable Energy Hub (connection to the 330KV NSW-QLD line)</u></p> <p>ST mentioned the TransGrid forum in Armidale where the hub was discussed. All three wind farm projects are interested. CPo said Stage 1 of WRWF does not require the hub as it has connection to 132kV Glen Innes to Inverell line, but happy to cooperate with TransGrid and consider any proposals for the hub.</p>	<p>LZ CPo CP</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Community feedback and community fund</p> <p>ST opened discussion on the fund and how it would work going forward.</p> <p>LZ and ST had participated in a telephone discussion with NSW OEH representatives on operation of CCCs, which had been useful.</p> <p>PS explained how the Nestle fund worked, setting up an Investment Development Support Group. Funds held by Council but EOI's could apply seeking approval to draw on the fund.</p> <p>CPo said fund is budgeted for, to start once the project was operational. Figures currently \$2,500 per turbine or \$175,000 per annum (CPo to confirm amount). Could be split into different funding strands (sponsorship, community projects, scholarships, etc). Fund could be held in trust by Councils or separate incorporated body.</p> <p>LZ suggested there needed to be a clear process managing the fund. PS recommended EOI approach. AA said had to be linked to councils as they could end up responsible for funded projects (e.g. village halls). Also that council may be able to chip in funds or help seek match funding, depending on the project. ST said could be managed within Section 355 Council committee structure.</p>	<p>CPo</p>

	<p>AA suggested could pool funds from other windfarms (Glen Innes, Sapphire). ST said subject to other projects proceeding.</p> <p>LZ mentioned intergenerational / legacy programs for future generations. ST suggested group could tap into existing local community groups (e.g. Landcare, Lions). ST said Glen Innes Severn Council has a donations pool, whilst Services' Clubs are also required to provide community funds.</p> <p>ST asked if budget for funds included provision for CPI adjustment. CPo to confirm.</p>	CPo
8	<p>Committee membership update</p> <p>ST explained that a letter about participation in the CCC had been sent to all residents within 5 km and an advert was to run in the Glen Innes Examiner and Inverell Times for three editions to encourage more participation.</p> <p>ST proposed that any applications would be distributed around the CCC for review and comment.</p>	
9	<p>General business</p> <p>Mobile Phone Masts</p> <p>AA mentioned that he had been approached by Vodafone about siting a mobile phone transmitter in the area. CPo indicated that WRWF had been in talks with mobile phone operators about siting mobile antennas in the project. These would be of benefit during construction for communication purposes with the added local benefit of providing network coverage to what is currently a mobile blackspot.</p> <p>AA asked about the consent to install such transmitters. AM said that whilst WRWF could provide a suitable attachment location (permanent monitoring masts) it was up to the operators to seek consent. AA indicated that it was likely consent would not be required if utilising existing infrastructure.</p> <p>There was general acknowledgement that providing mobile coverage to the area would be a good benefit to the local community.</p> <p>Flight Training School</p> <p>ST mentioned concerns by Neil Hansford over WRWF possible impact on Flight Training School at Glen Innes Aerodrome. Issues raised include vertical turbulence and night time lighting.</p> <p>CPo explained that Neil's concerns have been raised in response to consultation around micro-siting of turbines. Aviation considerations would have been taken into account when the project was consented, and it is not expected that micro-siting would significantly change the situation. WRWF are engaging with Neil Hansford.</p> <p>WRWF are also waiting for response on CASA which is expected shortly.</p>	

10	Next meeting - 1 pm, 4th February 2015 at New England Club, Glen Innes. Meeting closed at 3.30pm	