



## COOPERS GAP WIND FARM Community Consultative Committee

<b>Project</b>	<b>Coopers Gap Wind Farm</b>
<b>Meeting No</b>	20
<b>Date</b>	Thursday, 13 October 2016
<b>Venue and Time</b>	Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North
<b>Documents</b>	Meeting minutes and actions
<b>Chair</b>	Kath Elliott (KE), Independent Chair
<b>Minutes</b>	Liz Todd, Independent Consultant
<b>AGL representatives</b>	Karyn Looby (KL), Community Stakeholder Engagement Manager Neil Cooke (NC), Project Manager, Power Development Stuart Galway (SG), Land & Approvals Manager Ian Pople (IP), Manager of Assets
<b>Committee Members</b>	Neil French Tony Brame, Jandowae Business Group Cyril Stewart Mick Cosgrove Jim Scutt
<b>Guests</b>	Mark Herod, AECOM
<b>Apologies</b>	Bill Sparkes Russell Glode Neville and Jade Wenham Andrew O'Connor Wally Goodram Chris du Plessis Tom Hoare Clare Mildren, AGL
<b>Community observers in attendance</b>	Approximately 15

# Meeting Minutes

## 1. Welcome

Kath Elliott, Independent Chair

- Meeting opened at 1:04pm.
- CCC members, guests and observers were welcomed.
- Restructure within the AGL team in line with project progression. Clare Mildren will be taking over in the Community Liaison role. Karen Looby standing in for Clare today.
- Overview of the meeting agenda.
- Apologies were noted.

### Minutes

- Minutes from the 25 August 2016 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting.
- Members who had not received them were given a chance to review them.

Action: (KL) Minutes are to be posted to Jim Scutt.

### Action Items

- Why background noise was not measured for house 'D' and 'E' with windows open.
- Mark Herod, AECOM advised that when it is windy with speakers on, the speaker is dominant so it doesn't distort the outcome of the measurements. On the day of testing there was a strong wind.

## 2. Project status update

Neil Cooke, AGL Project Manager, Power Development

### EIS

- The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is on exhibition, 23 September to 7 November.
- Drop in session for local community after this meeting and another in Bell on Saturday.
- Everyone is encouraged to put in submissions to the EIS
- Submissions in favour of the project are appreciated.

### Approval Process

- After the exhibition closes, submissions to the Coordinator General are collected and sent to AGL to assess. AGL expects to respond to submissions which will be part of the final EIS.
- The Coordinator General is expected to provide a final decision with recommendations around the end of February. If the decision is favourable, it will be approved with conditions.
- The Qld Planning Department assesses against the wind farm code which is expected to be a 20-day process. The Planning Department are engaged throughout the process. The Planning Department will respond if compliant and provide conditions. If approval is granted, it is likely to be in early March.
- The AGL board and PARF Board may make a decision in May or June. It's expected that there will be three months' preparation (including preparation of the Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)) before construction starts.
- September/October 2017 is the earliest commencement date.

### Tender Process

- Stuart and Neil visited the turbine sites with four main tenderers. The tender process closes 15 November. AGL expects to select the final contractor around end of March 2017.
- The Silvertown project, outside Broken Hill, expects notice to proceed at the end of November.
- (NC) From AGL's perspective, we are happy with the way the project is moving forward

### Telecommunications

- Internal discussions are taking place regarding what happens during and after construction of the wind farm. AGL is dealing with Telstra, to see what can be done to improve telecommunications service to the area.

Q1. What happened during the South Australian black outs?

A1. 23 transmission towers blew down having a big impact. The Australian Energy Market Operator is conducting a detailed investigation and the report will be available in a couple of months' time.

Q2. Before the storm there were problems with no wind and power was non-existent. Apparently power was bought from Victoria.

A2. There are periods with high and low winds that is why there are interconnecting power flows between SA and Victoria and Tasmania. This is a normal part of the way the market operates.

### 3. Business and industry information sessions

Stuart Galway (SG), Land & Approvals Manager

#### Information Sessions

- Information session held in Dalby, Clare Mildren and Evan Carless attended.
- Explained opportunities available during construction phase. Over 100 people attended and a lot of interest from the area, similarly from Kingaroy held earlier.
- No issues were raised, and positive feedback provided. The community is pleased that local accommodation is expected to be utilised where possible rather than a construction camp.

Q3. Is there a business register?

A3. Councils are coordinating a register. Assistance can be provided to prepare capability statements.

Q4. Will local businesses be used where possible?

A4. The main contractor will employ sub-contractors. Information is being provided on local capability. A Local Industry Participation Plan is part of the tender process and a good level of local engagement is expected.

Q5. Local is viewed Australia wide for some industries.

A5. Tenderers are considering local to be nearby in Queensland. There is working to minimise, where possible, people flying in and flying out.

Q6. What is the construction time frame?

A6. 24 months.

#### Engineering, Procurement and Construction Contractor (EPCC)

- One contractor oversees construction of the whole wind farm, sub-contracting the civil contractor, electrical contractor etc.
- Tenderers all are wind turbine suppliers, and supply their own wind turbines into the project.
- AGL is raising the profile of local businesses to the Contractors so they know who they are and their capabilities. EPC contractors have also brought in sub-contractors to look at the sites on visits. At least 50% of these businesses are Queensland based.

Q7. What is the actual size of turbines?

A7. Silvertown turbines tendered are between 3.4 megawatts and 3.6 megawatts. AGL expects Coopers Gap to be the same.

### 4. Other business

#### Transport

Q8. Is the main transport route Bunya Highway up to Niagara Road, and Kingaroy and Jandowae Road? The Bunya Highway is a state matter, it is falling apart, are there plans to upgrade the road?

A8. Conceptual route confirmed for Bunya Highway. The EPC contractors will assess the road conditions and are required to put in road use and traffic management plans. Department of Main Roads and the two Councils will contribute to the plan to ensure roads won't deteriorate and determine what improvements will need to be made.



- There will be engagement with local council to ensure South Burnett and Western Downs roads staff have a common understanding of what needs to be done.
- Upgrades will be needed. A dilapidation survey on the condition of the road is conducted throughout the project. The road will decay and locals are asked to let the EPC contractor know so that it can be rectified quickly and on an ongoing basis.

Comment. A gully alongside a road on the Bunya Highway took four weeks to fix.

Comment. Roads are better as a result of the gas industry. No doubt the roads locally will be better as a result of the project.

- Heavy modules coming via Toowoomba through Dalby and Jandowae require a straighter route for 70m length blades.
- Tenderers were interested in the access for the oversize components, such as curves and canter on the roads to ensure they can get around. Some areas will need to be upgraded and fixed to allow for the oversized loads to access.
- Public and internal roads are expected to be the first parts of the construction program.

Q9. Will the traffic management plan have locals involved in the process?

A9. Yes. Members may wish to think about being involved in the preparation process for the traffic management plan.

#### **AGL Team**

- Neil has been with AGL 15 years, taking long service next year.
- Evan Carless will be taking over as project manager from 24 November 2016. Evan has been involved previously and known to everyone.
- Neil thanked everyone for their input and help and camaraderie over the past few years.

#### **Name**

- Q10. Why is the name Coopers Gap? Everyone knows the area as Porters Gap. Cooranga North is the reference to the project.
- A10. Coopers Gap was a name on a historic map. Porters Gap is current name.
- Possible reference such as 'Coopers Gap at Cooranga North'

#### **Minutes**

- Minutes from the 25 August 2016 meeting were accepted as read.

## **5. Next meeting**

- Thursday 24 November - Dinner/Christmas Party.
- Meeting 4-6pm, followed by party at Cooranga North Hall. Community, families and kids welcome.
- Please RSVP to help catering, utilising local groups.
- Transport available from the venue to make sure everyone is safe. AGL to provide bus.

Action: Clare Mildren organise catering with CWA and the local Furies

Action: RSVP Claire to liaise with community to work out how to collect RSVP from community. Suggest a letter box drop through community.

Meeting closed 1:52pm.

Bluff SA construction video was presented.



Action Item	CCC meeting	Status	Who
Ensure minutes are posted to Jim Scutt.	13 October	Ongoing	CM
CWA & Firies catering for Christmas Party	13 October	Open	CM
Invitations and RSVP Christmas Party	13 October	Open	CM
Transport for Christmas Party	13 October	Open	CM