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Meeting Coopers Gap Wind Farm at Cooranga North – Community Consultative Committee
Meeting no 24
Venue Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North
Time 1:00pm
Date 31 August 2017
Chair Rob Hart
Attendees AGL: Tim Knill (Construction Manager AGL), Ray King (Site Representative AGL), Clare Wilkes-Mildren (Government and Community AGL), Stuart Galway (Land & Approvals Manager)

Committee Members: Tom Hoare, Neil French, Mick Cosgrove, Bill Sparkes.), James Scutt, Tony Brame, Russel Glode, Cyril Stewart, Celeste Nelson (JBCG), Sharyn Garrett (WDRC), Chris Du Plessis (SBRC), Bill Sparkes.

Rob Hart (Independent Chair), Amanda Maurice (Consultant – minutes), Reagan Parle (TSBE), Lance MacManus (TSBE), Findlay Sharp, Paul Lindsay, Ros Heit (SBRC), Jade Wenham, Rob Fitzherbert (TAFE QLD), Emma Taffe (for Greg Taffe), Kelly Taffe, E.D. Sparkes, C.J. Stewart, Brian Millar, 20 community members

Apologies none noted

Meeting Minutes

1 Welcome

Rob Hart, Independent Chair

- Rob opened the meeting at 1pm and welcomed committee members, guests and community to the meeting.
- No apologies were noted.
- No conflicts of interest were raised.

2 Minutes previous meeting

Mick Cosgrove moved: That the minutes from the meeting 11 May 2017 were a true and accurate record.

Carried

Action Items

- Flight Path: There will be lighting on approximately half the turbines, a report will be published on the website
Action: Add aviation hazard report to the AGL project website.



- The turbine locations have been established, however there could be minor movements to these positions. Once there is certainty with the turbine locations, AGL will forward final locations to CASA and Air Services Australia for incorporation onto aviation maps.
Action: Once turbine locations are confirmed, provide information to CASA and Air Services Australia.
- Accommodation: workers will be housed locally, there won't be any project camps. Over the next 6 – 8 weeks CATCON should have an understanding where workers will be housed. At the next CCC in 3 months, there should be a lot more information.
- Communication: Clare Wilkes-Mildren said that there will be a quarterly newsletter.
Action: Issue construction status updates in quarterly newsletter, offset from community meetings so there is a 6-weekly communication cycle.

Clare advised that on Monday, AGL will host a kick-off meeting with the EPC Contractor, Powerlink and consultants AECOM and GHD which will provide a good opportunity to take issues from this meeting to the project delivery team.

- Community Fund: AGL will establish the Coopers Gap Wind Farm Community Fund to support worthy local community initiatives, clubs and events.

The Chair clarified that this meeting is focused on community matters and there will be separate meetings regarding supplier / contractor opportunities.

Action: Circulate CATCON details for supplier contact.

3 Project Status Update

Tim Knill, Construction Project Manager

(refer to presentation attached)

Q Who will do the earthworks?

GE CATCON will do the initial earthworks to create a level bench, Powerlink will build the electrical connection infrastructure on the bench.

Q Is this the biggest windfarm in Australia?

Yes, MacArthur has more turbines but a smaller capacity overall. There is a proposed project in Victoria that will be bigger if it goes ahead.

The Chair asked if there are any questions on construction.

Q What is the risk to livestock if there's a trench / excavation?



There will be a land management plan for each property to outline how to manage operation on the farms and minimize disruption for farming operations.

Q How deep are underground cables?

900mm depth, then a layer of sand, then backfill, and warning tape laid closer to the surface.

Q What about infrastructure already in the ground?

The contractor will conduct dial-before-you-dig searches, landowners will need to communicate about anything they have laid themselves (eg irrigation piping). A surveyor will register anything that has been laid as a public record.

Q What is the size of the cable?

Underground is different to overhead. Underground needs more copper to reduce heat generation and is therefore more expensive. There will be 2 spines of overhead lines within the wind farm site, the rest of the cabling will be underground

Q Have the state government or local authorities made any commitment to fixing the public roads that will be used for this project?

The commitment from the project is that the roads will be left in at least as good condition as they were found. There will be upgrades needed to roads to meet needs of the project which is part of the project costing. Before the Contractor can start hauling oversize wind turbine components, approval must be received from the Department of Main Roads

Concern about the condition of the Bunya Highway was expressed.

Action: Query Contractor as to which local roads will be impacted by wind turbine component deliveries.

Q Will you source materials (e.g. road materials) from local quarries?

There are a lot of materials needed. The Contractor will be looking locally. Suppliers are yet to be confirmed.

Q What is happening about upgraded mobile phone coverage?

This will be covered in Clare's presentation

The Chair encouraged anyone looking to supply to the project to talk to Lance or Reagan from TSBE after the meeting. There will also be Local Engagement Information Sessions.

Community Fund Presentation

Tim Knill, Construction Project Manager

(refer to presentation attached)



Q Would AGL consider a % of construction expenditure for the community fund rather than a fixed amount. \$30K doesn't sound like a lot for the number of communities affected.
Opinions about the amount may vary however it is what AGL has decided on and is part of a whole program of community enhancement initiatives. It is likely that the contractor and Powerlink etc. will also have their own initiatives.

Q Is the Community Funding information available on website?
We need to pull the information together and establish the fund framework and then publish it on the website, as well as advertise in local papers.

Action: AGL to advertise first funding round by next meeting.

Q Early discussions talked about at least \$50K p/a, quite a bit of time was spent on this previously, can you go back through the minutes and check?

Action: Go back through the minutes to find out what had been previously decided.

Q Who will receive the subsidy for solar?
Within 2kms of the site boundary. We want to get on to this very quickly, it is the first part of construction phase. Ray (AGL) will meet with all landholders within 2kms. Ray will start making contact by the end of September

Action: include Ray's contact details on minutes for proactive contact

Q Has anyone contacted Ergon regarding the feasibility of feeding power back in to the grid?
Not as yet.

Action: Check with Ergon if the lines and transformer capacity can cope with solar. Ray to action.

Q Are there other options e.g. a solar pump etc. rather than feeding back in to the grid?
Yes, the budget can be spent on alternative solar options if needed.

4 **Presentation on Community Engagement Policy**

Claire Wilkes-Mildren, Government & Community

(refer to presentation attached)

Two passions working on this project:

1. Local Procurement
2. Mobile Phone Coverage



Clare moved to gather community support behind an advocacy and communication program to lobby politically for improvement to mobile phone coverage in the area.

Q What sort of area are you looking at for the mobile phone coverage?

As much as we can get. Will lobby for coverage from Kingaroy to Dalby.

Action: Clare to use influence to improve mobile phone coverage in the area

Q What is the deadline for this?

Clare explained that CATCON must deliver a communications solution for construction. The effective deadline is at the end of construction.

5 General Business

Mick Cosgrove said he is pleased a decision been made on the windfarm, it has been a long time coming. Now we need to work together on the best possible outcome for all stakeholders. He is very pleased that work is starting quickly on the solar for landholders

Tim agreed that he wants everyone to have a positive experience. This is a key measure of success for the project.

The Chair asked if there are any other questions.

There were no further questions

Tim advised that AGL representatives will be available for a little while after the meeting to talk to people.

The Chair asked if there is any media present?

South Burnett online confirmed their attendance

The Chair thanked the CWA for catering for the meeting

6 Next meeting

- Tentative date & time: Thursday 30th November 3-5pm. The Christmas Party will commence afterwards.

Close at 2:30pm



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Item:	Discussion:	
	Flight Path	Tim
1	Action: Put aviation hazard lighting report on the website. Action: Once locations are confirmed, add the turbine locations to aviation hazard maps.	
	Communication	Clare
4	Action: Issue construction status updates in quarterly newsletter. Offset from community meetings so there is a 6-weekly communication cycle.	
	Supplier	Clare
5	Action: Circulate CATCON details for supplier contact.	
	Roads	Tim
6	Action: Determine which roads will be impacted by project haulage.	
	Community Fund	Tim / Clare
7	Action: Get ads underway for the first funding round. Action: Go back through the minutes to find out what had been previously decided, if anything.	
	Solar	Tim / Ray
8	Action: Put Rays contact details on AGL website for proactive contact. Action: Check with Ergon if the lines and transformer capacity can cope with solar.	
	Mobile Phone Coverage	Clare
9	Action: Clare to use influence to communicate for improved mobile phone coverage in the area.	
