



<b>Project:</b>	<b>Coopers Gap Wind Farm</b>
<b>Meeting No:</b>	13
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 20 February 2014
<b>Venue and Time:</b>	Bell Bunya Community Hall
<b>Document:</b>	Meeting notes and actions
<b>Chair/Facilitator:</b>	Kath Elliott, (KE)
<b>Minutes:</b>	Rosa Han (RH), AGL
<b>AGL representatives:</b>	Evan Carless (EC) Head of Generation Development Neil Cooke (NC) Manager Power Development Helena Orel (HO) Community Engagement Manager
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Ian Schafferius, Participating landowner Sue Sinnamon, Participating landowner Cyril Stewart, Coopers Gap Wind Farm Supporters Mick Cosgrove, Neighbour Tom Hoare, Coopers Gap Wind Farm Supporters Chris Du Plessis, South Burnett Regional Council
<b>Apologies:</b>	Mal Collinge, Local Aboriginal Elder Andrew O'Conner, Neighbour Tony Brame, Economic Development and Tourism for WDRC Greg Taffe, Kingaroy Chamber of Commerce Ashley Perkins, Western Downs Regional Council Neil French, Neighbour
<b>Community observers in attendance:</b>	Approximately 10

## Meeting Minutes

Item	Action
<p><b>1. Welcome</b></p> <p>Kath Elliott (KE) welcomed the CCC members and observers in attendance and discussed general housekeeping rules at the Kumbia Hall.</p> <p>KE introduced Neil Cooke, Manager Power Development at AGL.</p> <p>Apologies from the following CCC members for this meeting were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neil French</li> <li>• Tony Brame</li> </ul> <p>The meeting agenda was discussed.</p> <p>The actions from the previous meeting were discussed.</p> <p>KE noted that the letters that were drafted to the Queensland Government and to Bruce Scott MP were to be reviewed by the CCC prior to sending. EC advised that the CCC consider recent information that AGL had received prior to finalising the letters. AGL received information regarding noise requirements from the Queensland Government.</p> <p>EC explained that AGL had received guidance from the QLD Minister for Energy to assess the Coopers Gap Wind Farm in accordance with the NZ Standard for Wind Farm Noise. He noted that this is the same standard used in Victoria.</p> <p>Helena Orel (HO) noted that the action on providing a summary of the meeting minutes to media outlets is still outstanding and that AGL will close this out prior to the next meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that a question that was asked at the previous meeting was not actioned. EC will provide a response to the following question at the next meeting:</p> <p><i>Q1. Which type of turbine will produce more noise, the 3.0 MW or the 3.3 MW?</i></p> <p><i>Post-meeting clarification:</i></p> <p><i>A1. Maximum sound levels of both Vestas turbines(3.0MW and 3.3MW) are the same.</i></p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.</p>	<p>EC to provide response to question.</p>

## **2. Overview of project status, Evan Carless (EC)**

EC noted that he has been in his current role as Head of Generation Development for more than seven months and he will remain in this role for an undetermined length of time.

Due to this, he noted that he has had less time to dedicate to the Coopers Gap Wind Farm project which is why Neil Cooke (NC) will be assisting him to progress the Environmental Assessment (EA) now that AGL has received guidance around noise. NC's primary role will be to progress the EA.

EC noted that the guidance around noise has enabled AGL to confirm the turbine layout that will be used in the EA.

NC noted that he is working on getting the revised EA ready for submission by the middle of the year. Once this has been submitted, it will go on public exhibition for comment. The final report will then be prepared which will go to the Minister for determination. The aim is to have the final report ready by the end of the year.

EC provided an update on the Renewable Energy Target (RET) review:

- The RET scheme is currently being reviewed as required by legislation. The Federal Government has issued the Terms of Reference for the panel.
- The panel will be headed by Dick Wauburton, a former Reserve Bank board member. Other panel members are:
  - Matt Zema, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the Australian Energy Market Operator
  - Dr. Brian Fisher, former Executive Director of the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics, and
  - Shirley In't Veld, Independent Non-Executive Director of Asciano Limited and former Managing Director of Verve Energy, Western Australia's biggest electricity generator.
- The review is scheduled to be completed by mid 2014 and the panel will provide a report to the Prime Minister, the Treasurer and the Ministers for Industry and the Environment
- The Government is expected to make a decision by the end of 2014.
- There is an expectation that the RET will be reduced.

EC noted that AGL is continuing with the project approvals process for the Coopers Gap Wind Farm, however AGL will not be in a position to make an investment decision until the outcome of the RET review is known. The investment decision will also be dependent upon the market conditions at that time.

Questions:

Q1. Is there a set time frame when construction needs to commence relative to receiving an approval?

A1. We are clarifying with our consultants to determine when we will need to commence or complete construction from receiving project approval.

Q2. If the RET is reduced and with the current trend of decline in energy demand, what is the probability that this project will be built?

A2. This depends on the outcome of the RET review. One clarification is that forecast demand for 2020 is definitely lower today than what it was in 2010. Some of the comments made in the media are pointing towards a real 20% target for 2020. AGL will have a better understanding of the project depending on the outcome of the RET review.

Q3. If AGL is given a timeframe from the Government on when you need to construct the project from receiving project approval, what does this mean for the project?

A3. Whilst we don't know the exact time approval will be granted for the project, the expectation is that the approval timeframe will be long enough to make an investment decision which will take into account the RET review and market conditions.

Comments:

Mick Cosgrove (MC) commented that from the view point of a local community member, the sooner a decision is made the better.

EC reiterated that before the outcome from the RET review is known, AGL cannot make a decision on the project. However, in the meantime, AGL will be pushing ahead with the planning application.

**3. Community Fund Terms of Reference, Kath Elliott (KE) and Helena Orel (HO)**

Helena Orel (HO) noted that a Community Investment and Sponsorship Policy have been developed internally since the last CCC meeting and that the Coopers Gap Wind Farm Community Fund Guidelines needed to be in line with the AGL Policy.

The comments from the previous meeting have been included in the community fund document.

HO noted that one of the comments included the Community Fund Panel to be made up of council representatives and two AGL representatives. HO explained that in order to remain impartial to the process, AGL prefers not to be represented on the Panel.

The CCC also commented that they would like to have distance from the panel, however would like to have input on the composition of the panel.

HO explained that the Macarthur Wind Farm Community Fund has recently been established and an advertisement was placed in the local papers calling for nominations from the wider community to be part of the panel. Panel members were selected on merit.

It was suggested that CCC members could be part of the Panel on a rotation basis. HO noted this was happening for the Nyngan Solar Plant community fund.

Chris Du Plessis (CDP) noted that at the South Burnett Regional Council there is a fund available for regional Australia art development and the panel for this fund is made up of community members with art experience. The Council provides administration support and the Federal Government provides the funding however, they have no input on the allocation of the fund. The panel members are required to go through an interview process.

There was a discussion about whether a representative from the local community should be on the panel if there is no one that has the relevant skills and don't meet the panel criteria.

It was agreed that the panel will be made up of council representatives and community members with local knowledge. KE noted that this didn't exclude CCC members from being on the panel.

HO confirmed that AGL will be administering the fund.

EC noted that in accordance with AGL policy, AGL will not be represented on the panel, however AGL will make the final decision on the allocation of funds based on the panel's recommendations, AGLs final decision is to ensure that the allocation of funds is in accordance with the terms of the community fund.

HO noted that she will distribute the updated Community Fund Guidelines to CCC members for the next meeting.

Questions:

Q1. How will the panel members be selected?

A1. The AGL Community Relations team have put in place criteria to shortlist panel members.

AGL to distribute the updated Community Fund Guidelines

<p><b>4. Proposed site tour, Evan Carless (EC)</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the proposed site tour will be discussed at the next CCC meeting once the photo montages of the site have been updated for the revised EA.</p> <p>KE noted that the purpose of this tour was to give members perspective around the wind farm and to provide them with an idea on the scale of the project.</p> <p>She also noted that it is the responsibility of CCC members to act as a conduit to the wider community and to bring any issues forward to the committee that they believe is relevant. This also involves educating themselves as much as possible to ensure they have the correct information to disseminate to the broader community.</p>	
<p><b>5. Other business and close</b></p> <p>The CCC reviewed the letters that KE had drafted on behalf of the CCC to Bruce Scott MP and the Queensland Government.</p> <p>It was agreed that the letter to the Queensland Government would be sent after the discussed edits had been made.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the letter to Bruce Scott MP would be sent prior to the next meeting. This letter should also be sent to the local Member for Kingaroy.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 15 May from 1pm to 4pm at the Dalby Council Chambers.</p> <p>Items for next meeting's agenda will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present findings from the Cherry Tree Wind Farm court case</li> <li>• Project status update</li> <li>• Discuss proposed site tour</li> </ul> <p>Comments made by observers:</p> <p>An observer introduced himself to the CCC as a Kumbia resident. He stated that he was supportive of the project as he recognises the benefits this project will bring to the local community. He noted that he had recently visited the Hallett Wind Farms in South Australia and did not find any issues with them. He urged AGL to be more proactive in the local community and to be present at sponsored events.</p> <p>HO thanked the observer for his feedback and noted that AGL will endeavour to be more proactive in the local community.</p> <p>Closed meeting at 2.30pm</p>	<p>KE to send out letter to Queensland Government. KE to send out letter to Bruce Scott MP and Deb Frecklington MP.</p>

Action Item	CCC meeting	Status
Discuss with media team on 1-2 page summary of meeting minutes to be circulated to media outlets.	January 2013	Open
KE to amend letter to Queensland Government and send out.	February 2014	Open
KE to send out letter to Bruce Scott MP and Deb Frecklington MP.	February 2014	Open
HO to update Community Fund guidelines and distribute to CCC.	February 2014	Open
EC to advise the answer to the following question: <i>Which type of turbine will produce more noise, the 3.0 MW or the 3.3 MW?</i>	February 2014	Closed