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Project:	Coopers Gap Wind Farm
Meeting No:	16
Date:	Thursday, 3 December 2015
Venue and Time:	Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North
Document:	Meeting minutes and actions
Chair/Facilitator:	Kath Elliott (KE)
Minutes:	Helena (HO), AGL
AGL representatives:	Evan Carless (EC) Manager, Power Development Helena Orel (HO) Community Stakeholder Engagement Manager
Committee Members	Judy Schafferius, participating landowner (alternate to Ian Schafferius) Cyril Stewart, Coopers Gap Wind Farm Supporters Alison Lister, Western Downs Regional Council Tony Brame, Economic Development and Tourism for Western Downs Regional Council Chris Du Plessis, South Burnett Regional Council Matt Cunningham Jade Wenam, Greg Taffe
Guests	
Apologies	
Community observers in attendance:	Approximately 8

Meeting Minutes



Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Kath Elliott (KE) welcomed the CCC members and observers in attendance and provided an overview of the meeting agenda.</p> <p>The minutes from the November 2014 meeting were discussed and accepted.</p> <p>There were apologies noted from Jade Wenam and Greg Taffe.</p> <p>Actions were reviewed and HO agreed to resend nomination forms to Alison Lister.</p> <p>Cyril Stuart stated he has bought Val Stuart's land and how has a pecuniary interest in the project.</p>	<p>AGL to resend nomination forms to Alison Lister.</p> <p>Note</p>

1. Overview of AGL's Greenhouse Gas Policy, project status, Evan Carless (EC)

Sections 2, 3, 4

Please see presentation slides 5 - 13

EC gave an overview of AGL's recently announced Greenhouse Gas Policy. Key points include that AGL will not be extending the life of any of its existing coal power generation plants. By 2050 AGL will close all existing coal fired power stations in its portfolio. AGL will continue to invest in new renewable and near zero emission technology.

Evan noted that AGL CEO Andy Vesey is advocating for government policy to facilitate change from coal power to renewable and other sources of energy. However, that Andy does not expect governments to pay generators for the change.

Q1. With the Australian population increasing why is the demand for electricity decreasing?

A2. EC explained that this due to a number of things; there have been many efficiencies with power use by the general population, there has been closures of large scale industries and consequent decline in power demand and there has been a strong increase in solar power both residential and industry.

EC gave an overview of energy use to date and in comparison to what was forecast.

Currently the energy market is oversupplied, which contributes to the fact that AGL doesn't have a strong economic case to build wind farms, including Coopers Gap Wind Farm. However, AGL will continue to develop the wind farm to a point where a decision can be about going to construction, as it remains AGL's best wind energy opportunity in QLD to date.

Q2. what percentage of power will wind farms likely to be with the revised 2020 Renewable Energy Target (RET), and how does this fit with AGL's policy?

A2. EC said he would take this question on notice, however he noted that SA is aiming for to be powered by 50% renewable energy, and that while there was still a lot of work to be done with battery technology, battery technology was moving quickly and their impact was still uncertain. Evan noted that power demand in QLD had increased in recent times due to the impact the liquid natural gas (LNG) industry. This was possibly strengthening the case for AGL to progress the Coopers Gap Wind Farm and the strategy for this was being reviewed.

EC described what the current renewable energy supply looks like for Australia, based on the RET and current supply and he mentioned Alinta's SA recent coal power plant closure announcement and that this was a reduction in available supply.

<p>Q3 With the renewable energy supply we currently have and the RET is now at 33,000 gigawatt hours, can Australia still meet this target?</p> <p>A3 EC stated that this will be a challenge to meet and it would have been even more challenging to meet the original 41,000 gigawatt hours.</p>	
<p>2. Select Senate Inquiry Into Wind Turbines, Helena Orel (HO)</p> <p><i>Please see presentation slides 14 - 16.</i></p> <p>HO gave an overview of the Select Senate Inquiry Into Wind Turbines and noted that AGL had participated in the process and had made a submission to the Senate Committee. HO noted that as a result of the Committee, Federal Minister for Environment, Greg Hunt had committed to establish a National Wind Farm Commissioner (Mr Andrew Dyer) to manage complaints and to establish an Independent Scientific Committee to build on the work of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), to advise on wind farm monitoring and perceived health impacts and to update and implement national planning guidelines. The final report was released 3 August 2015.</p>	<p>AGL to distribute link to the final copy of the Senate Inquiry Report.</p>
<p>3. QLD Draft Wind Farm State Code and Planning Guideline, Evan Carless (EC)</p> <p><i>Please see slides 17 - 18</i></p> <p>EC gave an update on the progress of the QLD Draft Wind Farm State Code and Planning Guideline, which have recently gone out for consultation.</p> <p>Q4 When will the Guidelines come into effect?</p> <p>A4 EC said they are expected to be released in early 2016.</p> <p>EC then gave an overview of the key points in the Guidelines relating to wind farm sound and sound emissions for day time and night time.</p> <p>Q5 It looks there like noise from wind farms is unlimited?</p> <p>A5 EC explained that Guidelines did have limits for day time and night time noise and gave examples from the Guidelines. See <i>presentation slide 18</i>.</p> <p>Q6. Would AGL aim to better the noise guidelines requirements in the design of its wind farm so as to be seen as a leader in consideration of communities and neighbours?</p> <p>A6. EC stated that the 35DbA recommended in the Guidelines was very stringent and AGL would be compliant to these requirements.</p>	

<p>2. Next meeting and close</p> <p>3. Next meeting and close</p> <p>General group discussion around the next meeting date included some members of the group noted that they would like to meet more often while others said they would rather not meet if there wasn't anything new to say.</p> <p>It was agreed that the group would meet in March 2016 if there were items of interest that needed to be discussed, and if there was nothing for March, then to meet in June.</p> <p>Next meeting date to be confirmed.</p> <p>Location: Cooranga North Hall, at 1pm.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 2.45pm.</p>	
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Action Item	CCC meeting	Status	Who
AGL to contact participating landowners and seek expressions of interests to be on CCC.	November 2014	Ongoing	HO
AGL to resend nomination forms to Alison Lister, Western Downs Regional Council representative before next meeting.	December 2015	Closed	HO
AGL to confirm next CCC meeting date.	December 2015	Closed	HO