

**Minutes of the Community Consultation Committee (CCC)  
Meeting No. 12 held at Yass Soldiers' Memorial Hall Annexe,  
Wednesday 25 May 2016**

**Present**

**CCC Members:** Nic Carmody (Chair), Andrew Field, Sara Brown, Christine Hawkins, Cr James Wheelwright, Jayne Apps and Malcolm Day

**Proponent:** Michael Head

**Observers:** Paul Magee, John McGrath, Craig Southwell and Shirree Garland (minutes)

The meeting opened at 7.11

**1. Welcome/Apologies**

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Apologies were received from Graham Privett and Cr Ann Daniel.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary or other Interests**

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Nil

**3. Confirmation of Minutes**

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"Draft" watermark to be included on minutes until they are confirmed at the next meeting.

*The minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2016 were adopted with the inclusion of the following amendment:*

*Item 6 – Project Update*

*"that Wargeila Road had been removed from amps as it had been decided to remove focus on 132kV line route."*

**4. Actions arising from previous minutes**

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Rye Park Wind Farm Response to Submissions

Michael Head advised that only 3 'paper' copies of the Response to Submissions documents currently on exhibition had been made available. Copy of all documents was also made available on USBs and CDs.

Micro Siting

Andrew Field asked why it wasn't possible to identify the exact location of turbines? Cr Wheelwright advised that turbine manufacturers map the wind and are set up to obtain the optimum amount of power out of the site, this is not possible until the tender has been awarded, this can differ for different suppliers.

John McGrath asked whether turbine manufacturers produce their own blades? Michael Head advised that this depends on the manufacturer, some companies may outsource the manufacture of the blades.

## 5. Rye Park Wind Farm Project Update – Michael Head

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Michael advised that the Response to Submissions document had been submitted to the Department and was determined adequate for public exhibition within 4 days, going out on public exhibition last Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

Copies of the Response to Submission documents were delivered to locations as specified by the Department of Planning & Environment, and were also on display at the Yass Office. Michael advised that A1 size maps, to scale, were also available for viewing at the Yass Office.

Jayne Apps advised that a copy of these documents had not been provided to the Rye Park Post Office.

*It was noted that the Community Consultation Committee is of the view that a copy should have been supplied to the Rye Park Post Office.*

**Action: Michael Head to arrange for a copy of Response to Submissions documents to be provided to the Rye Park Post Office. Nic Carmody to raise issue of Rye Park Post Office not being included on distribution list with the Department.**

Nic advised that the Department of Planning & Environmental Services were planning to hold an Open Day on 8 June at Rye Park.

### Turbine Capacity

Michael advised that the total capacity applied to the site would be 327 Meg. The capacity for each turbine will be determined with the assistance of the turbine supplier. (Note: All 109 turbines may be the same capacity or they may vary, total capacity needs to come in under 330 Meg).

### Noise Testing

Michael advised that following the selection of the turbine supplier the manufacturer will be required to redo noise modeling and submit results to the Department to ensure that the noise criteria is met. A condition of approval for the wind farm operator will be that a noise compliant report will be required to be submitted. EPA will advise dwellings that will be representative homes, testing will be required within 3 months to ensure the wind farm is compliant. Michael advised that if the EPA find that a wind farm is not compliant the wind farm will be shut down.

Concern was raised in regard to whether compliance will be regularly monitored. Nic advised that tighter controls were now in place due to the mistakes that were made with the Gullen Range development.

### Employment Opportunities for Locals

Michael advised that he has been collecting CVs from individuals and contractors who are looking for work, links are also available on the website. He advised that there is a requirement to have a number of experienced people on site. These staff will also assist with the training of staff. Job descriptions for similar positions that will be available can currently be found on Seek website. Information sessions may be held closer to construction on what employment opportunities will be available. It was suggested that vacant positions be advertised in the local media, Michael advised that this would occur. Michael advised that employment opportunities would extent widely into the community.

### RTS Proposed Wind Monitoring Towers

Jayne asked why after 5 years there were more wind monitoring towers required? Michael advised that there would be no additional towers constructed. Current towers may be relocated to undertake additional reporting. This is required to understand expected production and to match against the turbine supplier's guarantee to what can be produced. Wind monitoring towers are inspected annually.

It was noted that current mapping showing wind monitoring towers does not indicate the height of towers.

**Action:** *Michael Head to email heights of all wind monitoring towers to members.*

## **6. Update on new guidelines**

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Nic Carmody advised that the new Draft Guidelines for Community Consultation Committees had been on exhibition for the period February to April. The Department are currently reviewing submissions and finalising the Guidelines. The major changes include:

New committee membership

- 3-5 community representatives (including environmental groups);
- 1 council representative;
- independent chair; and
- 2 or 3 managerial representatives.

**Action:** *Nic Carmody to confirm with the Department as to whether the new Draft Guidelines apply retrospectively, and whether council representation changes if a development covers various LGAs. Link to Guidelines to be forwarded to members.*

## **7. General Business**

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Visit to Properties – Department of Planning

Christine Hawkins asked whether the Department had advised whether they would be arranging visits to individual properties. Michael advised that he had been asked by the Department to supply contact details for some properties. Christine Hawkins to follow up with Diana Charteris.

Tribune Article

Jayne Apps voiced her disappointment in the recent article in the Yass Tribune. Nic Carmody provided background as to the information provided to the journalist.

## **8. Next Meeting**

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Next meeting – date to be advised.

Meeting closed 8.40 pm

No	Action	Meeting	Owner	Deadline	Comment
1.	Follow up with Mike from Trustpower regarding Nic's emails about appointment new committee members	3.0			
2.	Provide copy of Committee Guidelines to all Committee members	4.0	N Carmody		
3.	Previous minutes to be amended to reflect agreement/disagreement of committee members on subject of funds.	5.0	M Head		
4.	Michael to circulate previous minutes, people to provide feedback to Nic, and then Nic will edit and publish to the website before next meeting.	6.	N Carmody/ M Head		Complete
5.	Members to read Michael's draft report and come back with comments/questions next meeting	7.3	Attendees		
6.	Councils to look into adding information links on their websites to enable members of the public to find the information about the wind farm.	7.3	Councillors		
7.	Michael to bring copies of windfarm maps to the next meeting, and to send out link to booklet from exhibition	7.3	M Head		Complete
8.	Confirmation of the total number of houses within 5 km and total number of properties without houses in the same distance to be provided at next meeting by Trustpower	Trustpower			
9.	Forward copy of October 2015 minutes to Cttee members	17/2/16 4.0	N Carmody		
10	Committee members to advise Chairman if electronic copies of maps required	17/2/16 5.3	N Carmody		
11	Contact Upper Lachlan, Yass & Boorowa Councils to request information links be provided on their website	17/2/16 5.3	N Carmody J Wheelwright		
12	Updated transport maps, including all roads to be provided	17/2/16 6.5	M Head		

13	Specific questions for DP&ES to provided, collated and forwarded	17/2/16 7	N Carmody		
14	Arrange for copy of Response to Submissions Documents to be provided to the Rye Park Post Office	12	M Head		
15	Raise with Department issue of Rye Park Post Office not being included on distribution list	12	N Carmody		
16	Provide email members list of heights of all wind monitoring towers	12	M Head		
17	Confirm whether new Draft Guidelines apply retrospectively and whether council representation changes if a development covers various LGAs. Provide link to Guidelines to members	12	N Carmody		

Draft