



Project:	Broken Hill Solar Plant
Meeting No:	BH-CIS-07
Date:	Wednesday 1 July 2015
Venue and Time:	Broken Hill Centre for Community
Document:	Meeting minutes and actions
Facilitator:	Helena Orel (HO), AGL
Minutes:	Helena Orel (HO), AGL
AGL representatives:	Adam Mackett (AGM) Project Manager, Project Management Office Helena Orel (HO) Community Engagement Manager
First Solar representatives:	Jeff McAuliffe (JM), Project Manager Samantha Coras (SM), Project Manager
Visitors:	
Apologies:	
Attendees:	Jeff Luke, direct neighbour Leonie Luke, direct neighbour Tabby , Broken Hill Chamber of Commerce Tatjana Zelenkova, Broken Hill Chamber of Commerce Ghislaine Barbe
Observers:	Approximately 22

Meeting Minutes



Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome and introductions</p> <p>Helena Orel (HO) welcomed CIS members and observers in attendance and explained the purpose of the meeting to newcomers.</p> <p>Key points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure the community is well informed about the project with reliable information• Receive feedback from the community, and work to improve areas as required• Minimise negative impacts to the community. <p>HO gave an overview of the meeting agenda for the CIS. There were no actions from previous meeting.</p>	
<p>2. Overview of Project Status, Adam Mackett (AGM) AGL</p> <p><i>Please see presentation slides 4 - 10</i></p> <p>AGM gave an overview of AGL's project status which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project was energised with one 22kV feeder No.2 now energised ready to transmit power• Power is being drawn from the grid to the site and the site is getting reading for commissioning and testing• The 22kV transmission line towers have been built with enough height to get the cables over the ARTC train line adjacent to the power plant and the substation• Registration for generation has been submitted to the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) preparing for generation and this is progressing• Power station accreditation has been submitted to the Clean Energy Regulator• The solar plant is on track to be fully operational by December 2015. <p>AGM went through slides that showed irradiance levels at the Nyngan Solar Plant and the effects the different levels of radiance had on the generation output.</p>	

Item	Action
<p>HO to send link of aerial footage of the Nyngan Solar Plant to the group.</p> <p>Q1. How is variations in supply handled?</p> <p>A1. AGM described the supply and demand process which is managed by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) to ensure the supply is available for the energy demand. They manage the bidding and dispatch of energy to match the demand requirement at the time.</p> <p>3. Overview of project status, Samantha Coras (SC) First Solar</p> <p><i>Please see presentation slides 11 - 15</i></p> <p>SC provided an overview of the status of First Solars' project progress, which included:</p> <p>Sub contractors' progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar module installation started in April 2015 and now half of the 650,000 modules are now installed and connected together • Installers achieving 300 modules per day per person • The structural work was completed in May • Electrical work is still underway • Testing and commissioning have started <p>Deliveries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30,000 solar panels are being delivered per week <p>Construction progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 350,000 solar modules installed and connected up • Electrical work is in full progress • Trenching in progress for electrical cables • Grid connection switching gear on site and testing in progress • First Solar commissioning team <p>Environmental management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pallets being recycled in Adelaide • Compacting solar module packaging waste • Water saving initiatives implemented onsite <p>Q2. Where does the cardboard waste go?</p>	<p>Send link to aerial footage of the Nyngan Solar Plant</p>

Item	Action
<p>A2. SC explained it is being sent to Consolidated Mining and Civil for reuse, there has been tonnes of packaging for recycling.</p> <p>Q3. Has there been any problems with the ground conditions affecting the project?</p> <p>Q3. SC described the earlier geological testing that was done at the site and that the results showed that here hadn't been as much rock on the site as was first expected. The ground conditions hadn't greatly affected the steel post installation or other elements of the construction process.</p>	
<p>4. Project employment, Samantha Coras (SC) First Solar</p> <p><i>See slides 16 - 17</i></p> <p>SC noted that the installation involved a degree of low skilled work, with First Solar's technical staff upskilling workers for more complex activities as required. Construction was providing a great employment opportunity for locals.</p> <p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 130 people have been inducted to the site • 150 people are working on site, half are locals, with the number fluctuating depending on the work stage. <p>Note:</p> <p>Hays are no longer recruiting for First Solar and RCR are now the recruitment contact for the solar plant's construction.</p> <p>RCR are recruiting through recruitment@rcrtom.com.au</p>	

Item	Action
<p>5. Project Planning Adam Mackett (AGM), Helena Orel (HO) AGL</p> <p>AGM explained that this section was now included into the meetings to discuss elements of the project not always directly related to construction and to allow for the community to provide feedback, ask any questions they may have, or to have any rumours arising addressed and to generally provide opportunity for general open discussion.</p> <p>HO gave a brief overview on the recent community visit to the solar plant on May 28th</p> <p>The group discussed the site visit and there were positive comments about the construction progress and the solar plant.</p> <p>HO noted that if there was further interest from other community members, another visit could be organised.</p> <p>General discussion included solar power technology, residential solar costs.</p> <p>Q4. What is the life of the solar plant?</p> <p>A4. AGM said the plant is expected to last for the next 25 – 30 years. After 25 years the plant is expected to have an 80% capacity.</p> <p>Q5. Is technology peaking now for solar?</p> <p>A5. AGM explained that thin film technology is still improving and this was something that First Solar was working on in their research and development area.</p>	
<p>6. Construction Community Fund, Helena Orel (HO) AGL</p> <p><i>Please see presentation slide 20 - 21</i></p> <p>HO noted that the community fund for round two would be advertised in September 2015 in the local papers, website and via other avenues.</p>	
<p>7. Next meeting and close</p> <p>It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 9 September 2015 as a ministerial event was planned for the Nyngan Solar Plant on Wednesday 2 September.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 8.pm</p>	



Action Item	CIS meeting	Status	Who
AGL to send aerial footage of the Nyngan Solar Plant to the group.	July 2015	Closed	HO