

Coopers Gap Community Consultative Committee (CGCCC)

Coopers Gap Wind Farm Project
CGCCC Meeting 8



Facilitator: Kath Elliott

17 January 2013

Meeting agenda

- > Welcome and introductions
- > Apologies
- > Logistics
- > Confirm November meeting notes
- > Overview of project status
- > Reflection and look ahead
- > Council submissions
- > Update on the status of the revised Environmental Assessment Report
- > Results of recent community poll
- > Close

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Welcome to new members

- > Neil French
- > Mick Cosgrove
- > Tony Brame
- > Gregory Taffe

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Overview of project status

- > Initial assessment report released March 2011
- > Preparing Revised Assessment Report

Next steps

- > Release Revised Assessment Report
- > Submissions (community and agencies)
- > Prepare Final Assessment report
- > Lodge application with Qld State Govt
- > Determination by Qld Govt
- > AGL Investment Decision
- > Award Construction Contract
- > Pre-Construction
- > Construction
- > Wind Farm Operating



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Reflection and look ahead

- > What do you think worked well at the committee meetings in 2012?
- > What do you think the committee could do to improve the effectiveness of future meetings?

Topics agreed to be discussed at the first CCC meeting held in May 2012:

- > Noise and setbacks
- > Health impacts, shadow flicker, electromagnetic interference
- > Traffic and construction impacts
- > Impact on property values
- > Impact on flora and fauna

(extract from May 2012 meeting minutes)

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Reflection and look ahead

- > What would the committee like to achieve in 2013?



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Council submissions – Western Downs Regional Council

- > Community Engagement
- > Cultural Heritage
- > Land Use and Planning
- > Landscape and visual assessment
- > Noise
- > Socio-economic assessment
- > Access and traffic
- > Aviation
- > Electromagnetic interference
- > Environment Management Plan
- > Health

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Council submissions – South Burnett Regional Council

- > Legislative framework
- > Land use and planning
- > Noise
- > Socio-economic assessment
- > Access and traffic
- > Shadow flicker
- > Health
- > Siting of turbines
- > Community fund

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Status of revised Environmental Assessment Report

- > AGL's consultants (AECOM) preparing the Revised Assessment Report
- > Team of technical people preparing the individual sections of the report
- > More than 15 Chapters to be prepared
- > Chapters will be prepared during January - March
- > Process of drafts and reviews prior to finalisation of the report
- > Revised Assessment Report Finalised
- > Report made available to agencies and community
- > Submissions

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Recent community phone poll

- > In December, AGL commissioned *Qdos Research* to gain a greater understanding of community attitudes towards the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm and the wind industry in general in Queensland

- > Key objectives:
 - » Measure awareness of and community attitudes towards the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm
 - » Measure community attitudes towards wind farms in Queensland
 - » Measure and prioritise key issues and concerns related to wind farms
 - » Provide baseline data for time-based analysis
 - » Understand how participants would like to be communicated with about the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm

Methodology

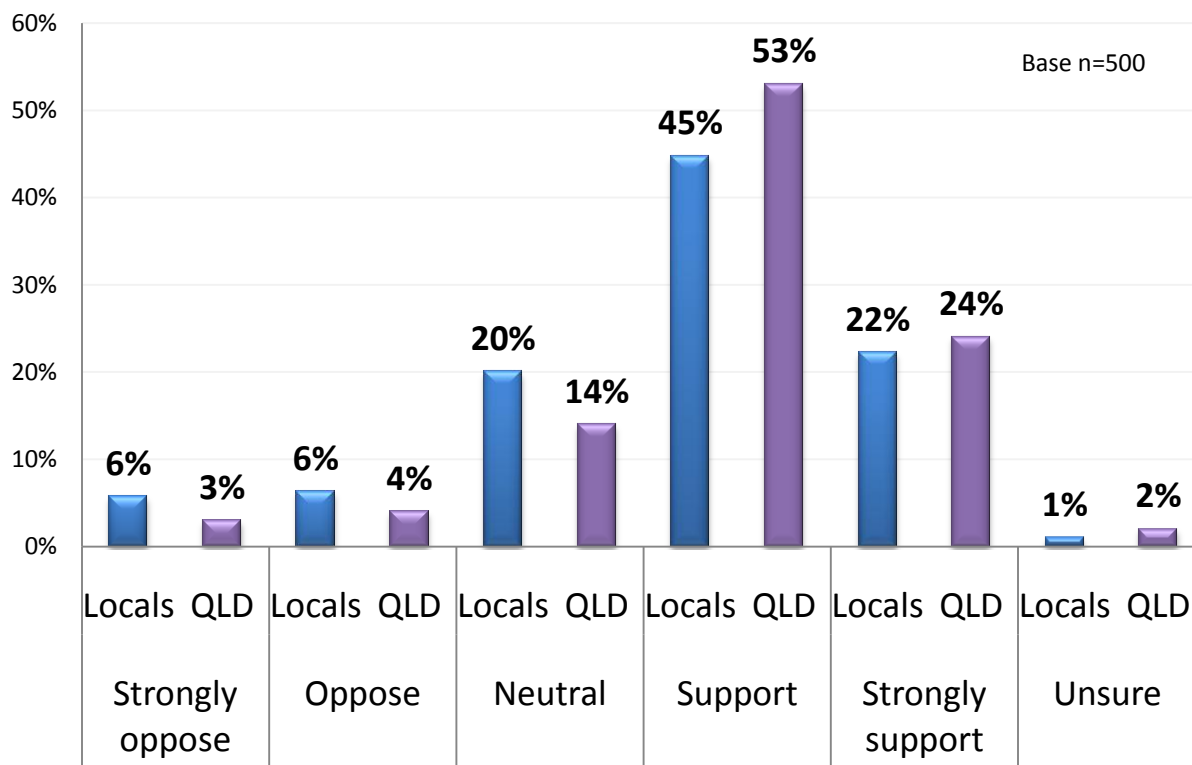
- > Telephone survey of residents within a 50km radius of the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm and the wider Queensland population
- > Qdos obtained all available residential numbers for the areas within proximity to the proposed wind farm site and each number was called at least three times
- > 500 people were surveyed
 - » 400 locals
 - » 100 broader QLD
- > The distance of 15 kilometres for the inner ring was chosen because it was the minimum distance that a reasonably statistically valid sample size (53 respondents) could be obtained in this quite sparsely populated area

Survey Sample			
Total		500	100%
Distance from site	Within 15 K's	53	11%
	16 to 30 K's	105	21%
	31 to 40 K's	108	22%
	Between 40 K's and 50 K's	134	27%
Sample	All Locals	400	80%
	QLD Wide	100	20%

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- > 67% of all locals respondents support building wind farms in QLD to generate electricity
- > 77% of respondents across QLD support building wind farms in Queensland to generate electricity

Support/oppose building windfarms in QLD to generate electricity

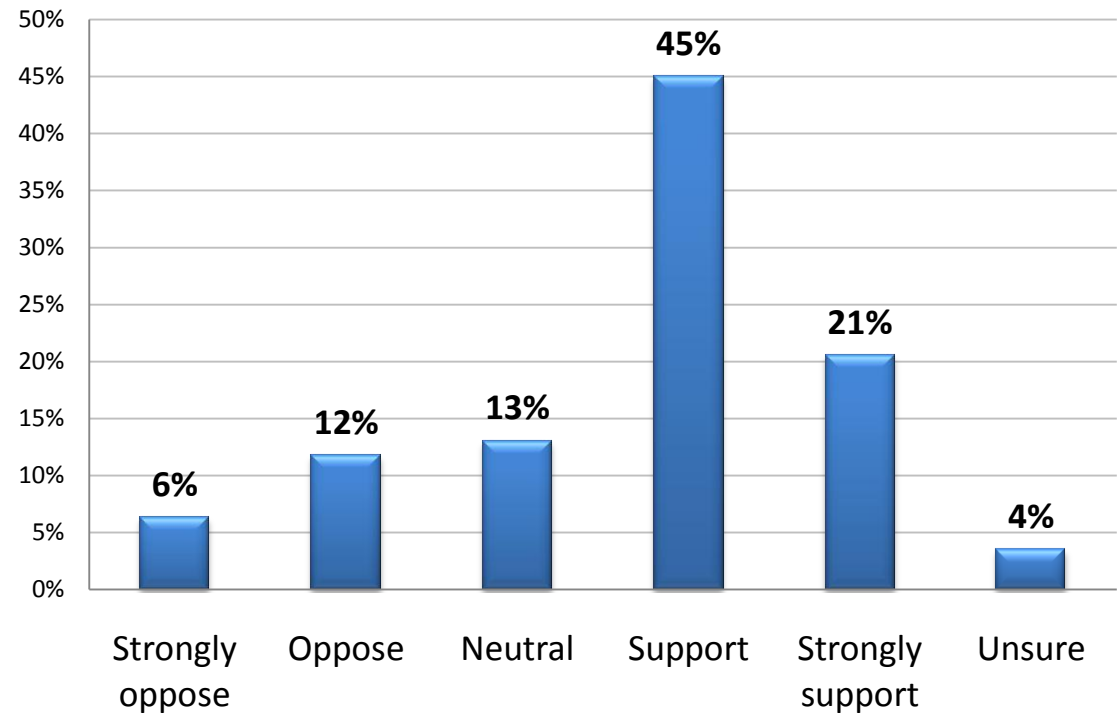


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Findings – Level of support for local wind farm developments

- > Of the locals surveyed, two-thirds (66%) supported future wind farm developments in their local area
- > The levels of those who supported local wind farm developments were consistent regardless of proximity to the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm site.

Support/oppose future local wind farms

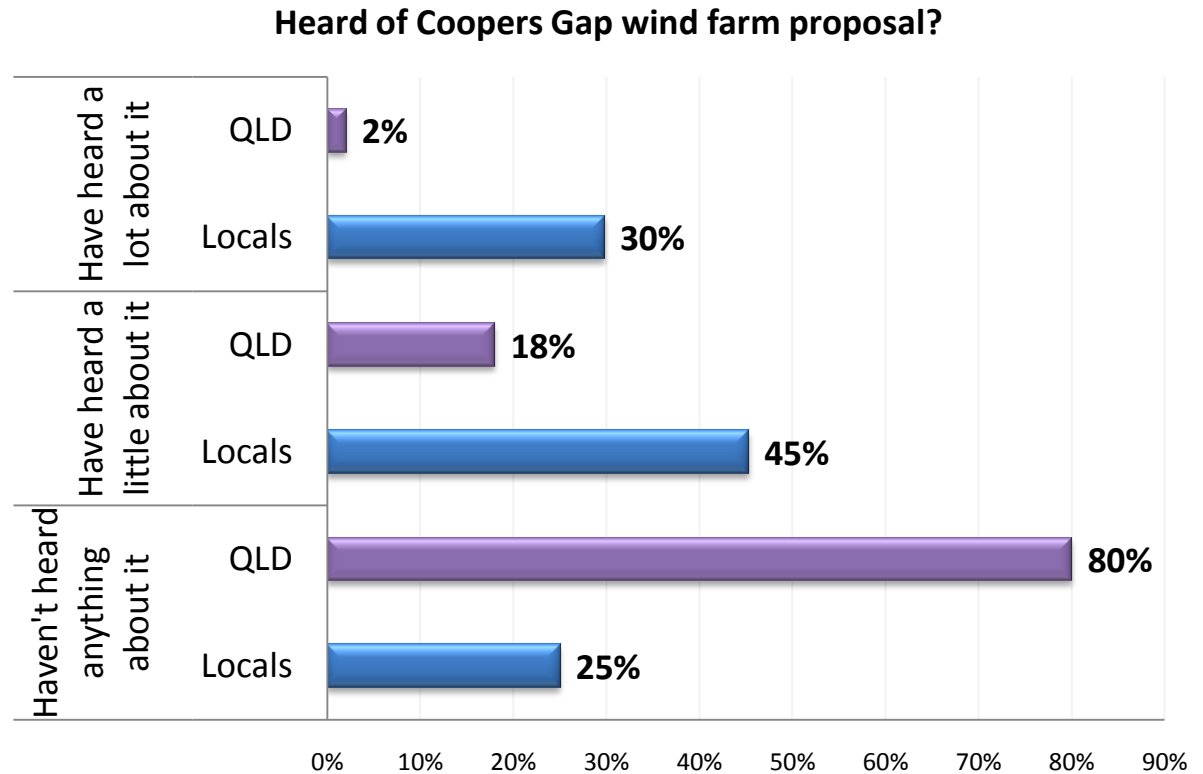


Base: n=400

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Findings – Awareness of the Coopers Gap wind farm

- > Of the locals surveyed, 75% had either heard a little or a lot



Base: n=500

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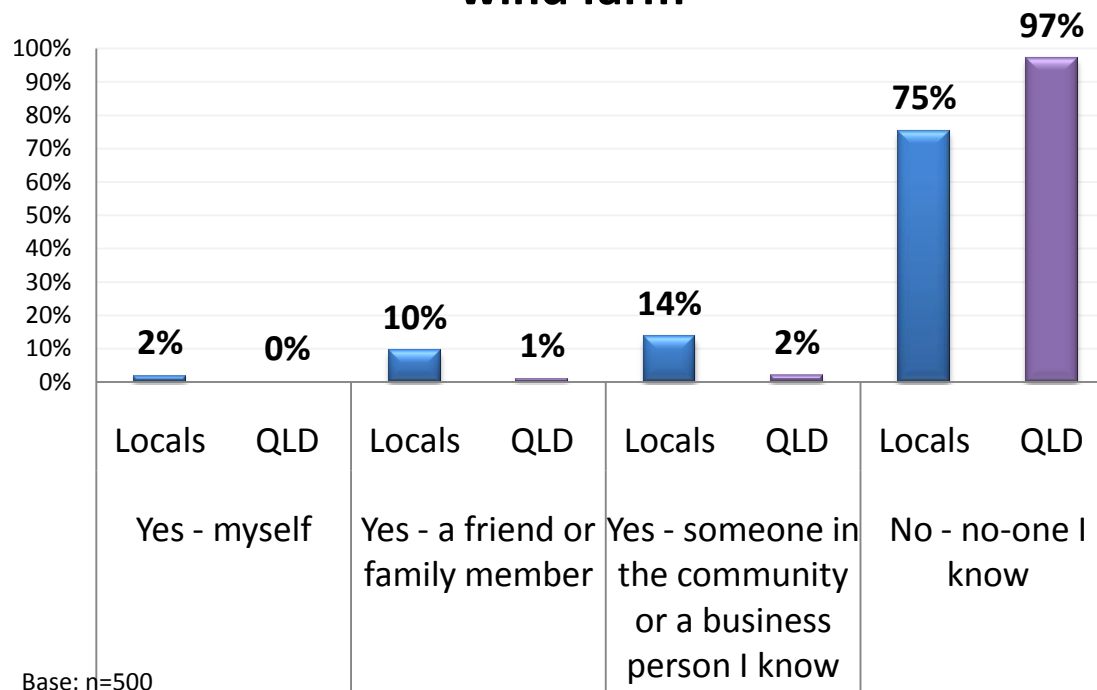
Findings – Impact of Coopers Gap wind farm on local aspects (local respondents)

	Nett bad	Make no difference either way	Nett good	Don't Know
The environment globally	9%	23%	64%	5%
Local jobs	8%	31%	55%	7%
The local farmers involved in the wind farm	19%	16%	55%	10%
Local businesses	10%	37%	45%	9%
The local community overall	18%	31%	44%	7%
The local environment	17%	42%	35%	6%
Visual appearance and general amenity in the local area	23%	44%	31%	3%
Your business	9%	76%	13%	2%
The health of local people	19%	51%	15%	15%
Live stock	21%	58%	9%	13%
Property values	39%	31%	19%	12%
Noise from the wind farm	31%	41%	10%	19%

Findings – Knowledge of beneficiaries of the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm

- > 75% of local respondents do not believe they themselves or anyone they know personally will benefit directly from the proposed wind farm
- > Those living within 15km of the site were more likely to say that they themselves or a friend/family member or someone they knew in the community would benefit (67%)

Will you/anyone you know benefit directly from the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm

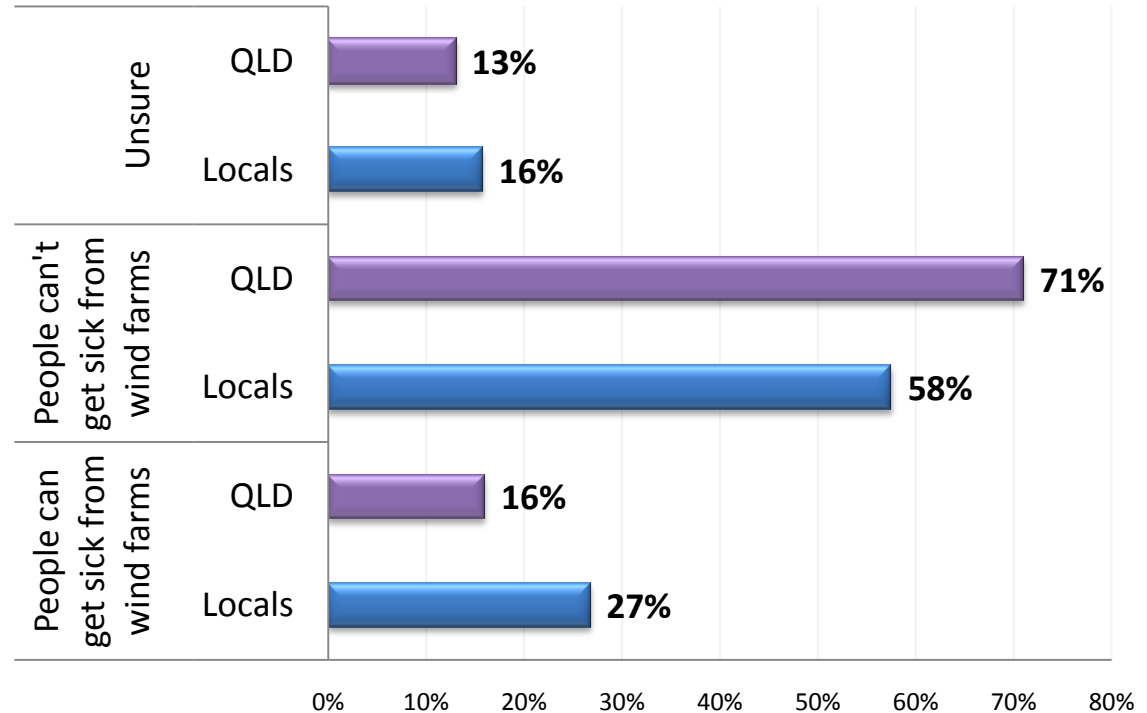


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Findings – Perceived likelihood of wind farms causing illness

- > Most locals (58%) believe that *People can't get sick from wind farms*.
- > Locals were, however more likely to believe that *People can get sick from wind farms* than those in the broader Queensland population; 27% compared to 16%.

Which sounds more likely to be correct?



Base: n=500

Findings – Preferred information channels from local respondents

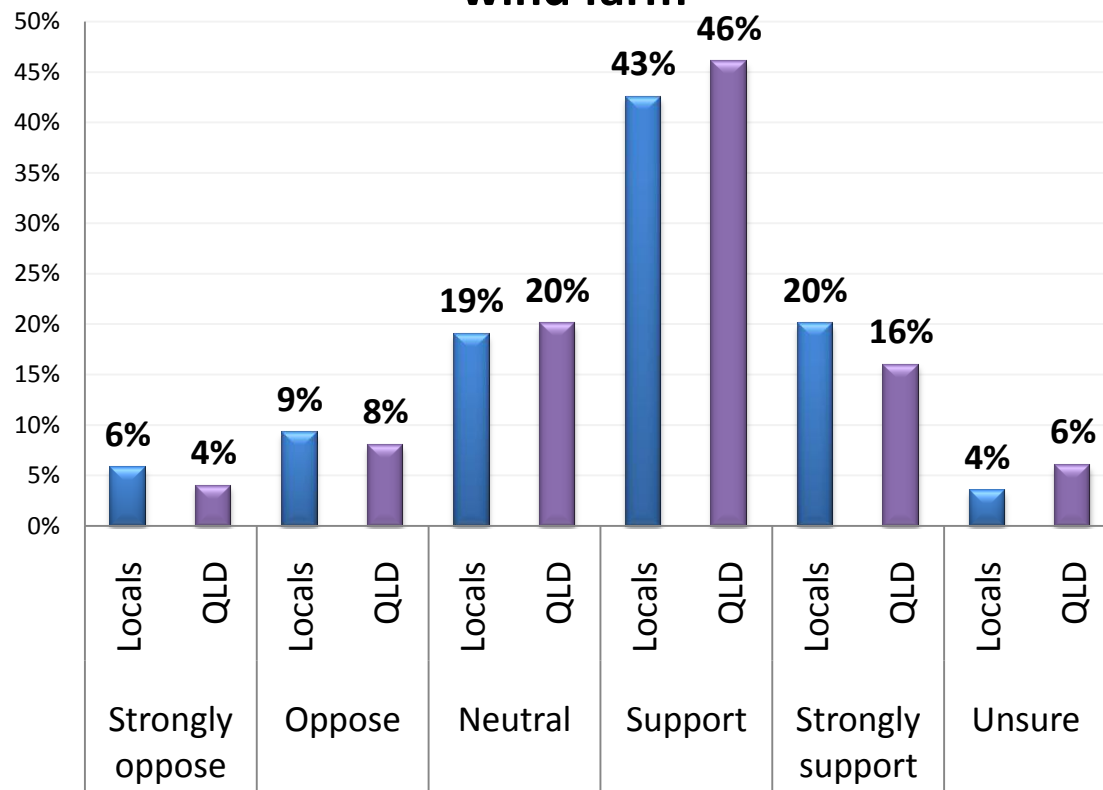
	Total n=400
Advertisements in the local paper	70%
Letter box drop	53%
Website	28%
Attending the Community Consultative Committee or speaking to a CCC representative	26%
Other public places (such as local library)	26%
Other... (please advise)	17%
One-to-one discussions with AGL representative	15%

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Findings – Level of support for the proposed Coopers Gap wind farm

- > High levels of support for the wind farm development were consistent for both locals and the wider Queensland population – 63% of locals support the proposal.
- > Although the level of support was consistent for those living within 15 km of the site (60% support) the level of people opposed was higher for this sub group at a quarter (25% oppose).

Support/oppose proposed Coopers Gap wind farm



Base: n=500

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Discussion on next meeting

- » Date
 - » Location
 - » Time
 - » Potential topics
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- > Commencement time of future meetings

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Any other business?

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