



Project:	Coopers Gap Wind Farm
Meeting No:	15
Date:	Thursday, 20 November 2014
Venue and Time:	Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North
Document:	Meeting minutes and actions
Chair/Facilitator:	Kath Elliott, (KE)
Minutes:	Helena Orel (HO), AGL
AGL representatives:	Evan Carless (EC) Project Manager, Development, Project Management Office Helena Orel (HO) Community Engagement Manager
Guests:	Eloise Handley, representing Bruce Scott MP
Committee Members:	
	Ian Schafferius, participating landowner
	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
Apologies:	
Community observers in attendance:	Approximately 7

Meeting Minutes



Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Kath Elliott (KE) welcomed the CCC members and observers in attendance.</p> <p>KE also welcomed Eloise Handley who was in attendance on behalf of Bruce Scott MP.</p> <p>Alison Lister from Western Downs Regional Council was welcomed and introduced to the group. Alison is replacing Ashley Perkins on the CCC.</p> <p>There were no apologies noted from the CCC members.</p> <p>KE provided an overview of the meeting agenda.</p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.</p> <p>The actions from the previous meeting were discussed.</p> <p>Evan Carless (EC) answered the questions from the previous meeting:</p> <p><i>Q1. What percentage of renewable energy is produced by wind farms?</i></p> <p>A1. In excess of 25% of renewable energy in Australia is generated by wind farms. Over 10% by solar and most of the remainder by hydro. It should be noted that the majority of hydro generation in Australia comes from the Snowy Mountains and Tasmania and predates the Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (41 TWh by 2020). Almost all renewable energy contributing to the Large Scale Renewable Energy Target is generated by wind farms.</p> <p><i>Q2. If AGL decides to not progress the wind farm's construction, will AGL cancel agreements with landowners?</i></p> <p>A2. EC noted that this is a matter between AGL and the landowners and that he would discuss this question directly with the landowners/turbine hosts.</p> <p>CCC landowner representative – vacant position created by Sue Sinnamon's retirement:</p> <p>It was noted that as the project's development phase has slowed, that community members may be waiting for project to gain momentum again before committing to joining up as a CCC member. If and when the project gained momentum, then the CCC membership nominations forms would be distributed again.</p> <p>It was noted that all other outstanding actions have been closed out.</p>	<p>HO to send Alison the CCC nomination forms.</p>

<p>Evan Carless gave an overview of the recent changes to the AGL Power Development team. Due to a shift in focus, the Power Development team is now a Project Management Office. This will manage large projects at existing power stations as well as manage new build projects. Rosa Han has left AGL, Neil Cooke is no longer involved with the Coopers Gap Wind Farm project and Evan Carless is now back in his original role as project manager. Nigel Bean is working on the integration process for AGL's newly acquired AGLMacquarie Generation Power Stations in the Hunter Valley, NSW.</p>	
<p>2. Overview of project status, Evan Carless (EC)</p> <p><i>Please see presentation slides 7-13.</i></p> <p>Queensland Wind Farm Draft Guidelines</p> <p>EC gave an overview of the latest information available about the Draft Queensland Wind Farm Guidelines, which was available from the QLD State Planning Department website.</p> <p>The website indicates that the Guidelines are expected to be finalised in late 2014.</p> <p>, AGL has held off on doing further work on the Revised Assessment Report (RAR) until the guidelines are finalised.</p> <p>In addition, there is an oversupply of power generation in the national market, which is affecting all projects around the nation along with AGL's. This oversupply, coupled with the ongoing uncertainty around the Renewable Energy Target (RET) is affecting the Coopers Gap Wind Farm proposal. Pending the outcome of the RET decision and the status of the energy oversupply, AGL will make a commercial decision about construction of the wind farm based on the viability of the project. In the interim AGL will continue to progress the project to get it construction ready.</p> <p>Q1. Is having no guidelines in QLD affecting the project? A1. Not having finalised guidelines has resulted in stopping work on the RAR.</p> <p>Q2. Do you know what is in the submissions? A2. EC noted he doesn't know what is in the submissions other than the content of AGL's submission that was discussed at the last CCC meeting. We understand that the content of the submissions is being considered and this is delaying release of the guidelines.</p>	
<p>Comments from the CCC included:</p> <p>Government departments don't usually allow previews of submissions. They are made public when the report is done.</p>	

<p>The elections may affect the outcome of the decisions being made.</p>	
<p>Renewable Energy Target update, Evan Carless (EC)</p> <p><i>Please see presentation slides 10 to 13.</i></p> <p>EC detailed the differences in the energy market forecasts for energy demand and actual demand. While there had been continual growth in energy demand from 1955 to 2010, demand has been falling since 2010. The forecast demand was less than expected, leading to an oversupply in energy. This has also led to discussion around the viability of the renewable energy target. The large uptake of solar energy by residential properties has also affected energy use and demand. This oversupply and RET uncertainty means AGL cannot commit at this stage to building new wind farm projects.</p> <p>The fixed target set for 20% by 2020 was to create some certainty for businesses. 41,000 GWh was set as 18% of forecast consumption by 2020, with the remaining 4,000 GWh (the balance of the 20% expected to be delivered by small scale renewable). The current forecast electricity consumption by 2020 is considerably lower than when the RET target was set. The 41,000 GWh is now expected to be closer to 27% of total consumption.</p> <p>Q3. Why did demand fall?</p> <p>A3. EC noted there is probably about three to four reasons for this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. industry closures, such as smelters in Port Henry, Victoria, Kurri Kurri, NSW, oilrefineries have also closed 2. the increase in residential solar installations 3. changes to energy efficiency in appliances 4. changes in people's energy use behaviours. <p>These have all had a cumulative effect on demand.</p> <p>Comment: a CCC member commented that the graphs show no increase over the next 20 years.</p> <p>Q4. Are there any power stations in service that will be meeting their use by dates soon?</p> <p>A4. EC answered, yes, however this won't change the supply / demand greatly, as the market is oversupplied about 30%, which is having a negative impact on business cases to build new projects. However, AGL will continue work to get the Coopers Gap Wind Farm construction ready.</p> <p>Comment: a CCC member noted that they had been expecting this scenario for a while now.</p>	

<p>Q5. Has exporting gas affected this demand?</p> <p>A5. EC responded that this has been taken into account for demand forecasts. Exporting gas does use electricity and this will increase electricity demand. However, there is now a lot of cheap gas available encouraging significant amounts of gas fired generation. In the next few years as gas prices increase gas fired power stations may come off line.</p> <p>Warburton Review of the Renewable Energy Target, Evan Carless (EC)</p> <p>EC provided a brief summary of the Warburton Review of the RET. The review has recommended two options for renewable energy:</p> <p>`The Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET) should be amended in one of the following two ways':</p> <p>`Option 1 – Closed to new entrants ('grandfathering')'</p> <p>`Option 2 – Share of growth in electricity demand'</p> <p>`a. The target is set annually by the CER, increasing each year to 2020 by an amount equivalent to 50 per cent of projected growth in national electricity demand, ensuring that new renewable energy power stations are only supported under the RET where electricity demand is increasing.'</p>	
<p>3. Community Fund Terms of Reference, Helena Orel (HO)</p> <p>Helena Orel (HO) presented the updated Community Fund guidelines which now included the last round of comments from the group at the last CCC meeting including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooranga North CWA will be the organisation of choice to distribute community funds in the first year of the project's construction. This would be reviewed after the first year and made a permanent arrangement if the panel believed there was a requirement for this. <p>HO noted that the three additional 'areas we support' discussed in the last CCC were now included in the final guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure – repairs to community halls etc. • Voluntary emergency services – funding for SES, local ambulance and provision of services and/or equipment to emergency services organisations. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academia – sponsoring the dux of a school, scholarship for high achieving students / gifted students in arts and music. <p>It was agreed that the CCC would accept the guidelines as final until further notice.</p>	
<p>4. Other business and close</p> <p>It was agreed that due to the slower progress of the project, that the next CCC meetings for 2015 should be held Thursday 14 May and November (date to be confirmed) 2015. It is hoped that by this time, there will be an update on the RET and the draft Queensland Government Guidelines.</p> <p>There were no questions from observers.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 2.15pm.</p> <p>Next CCC meeting: 1pm, Thursday 14 May 2015 at the Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North.</p>	<p>AGL to confirm next meeting date, closer to May 2015.</p>

Action Item	CCC meeting	Status	Who
AGL to confirm next 2015 CCC meeting date.	November 2014	Open	HO
AGL to send Alison Lister CCC nomination forms.	November 2014	Open	HO
AGL to contact participating landowners and seek expressions of interests to be on CCC. When project gains momentum	November 2014	Ongoing	HO
AGL to circulate nomination forms to CCC members before next meeting.	May 2014	Closed	HO
AGL to update the Community Fund Guidelines and distribute to CCC.	May 2014	Closed	HO
AGL to provide answer to the following question: <i>What percentage of renewable energy is produced by wind farms?</i>	May 2014	Closed	EC
AGL to provide the answer to the following question:	May 2014	Closed	EC



<i>If AGL decides to not progress the wind farm's construction, will AGL cancel agreements with landowners?</i>			
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