



Project:	Coopers Gap Wind Farm
Meeting No:	17
Date:	Thursday, 17 March 2016
Venue and Time:	Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North
Document:	Meeting minutes and actions
Chair:	Kath Elliott (KE)
Minutes:	Helena (HO), AGL
AGL representatives:	Helena Orel (HO) Community Stakeholder Engagement Manager Neil Cooke (NC) Project Manager, Power Development
Committee Members	
	Cyril Stewart,
	Alison Lister, Western Downs Regional Council
	Tony Brame, Economic Development and Tourism for Western Downs Regional Council
	Gordon Globe
	Russell Glode, alternative for Ian Schafferius
	Mick Cosgrove
	Bill Sparkes
	Nominated member Jim Scutt
Guests	
Apologies	Judy and Ian Schafferius
	Chris Du Plessis, South Burnett Regional Council
	Daniel and Katherine West
Community observers in attendance:	Approximately 18, including two media representatives

Meeting Minutes

Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Kath Elliott (KE) welcomed the CCC members and observers and made introductions in attendance and provided an overview of the meeting agenda.</p> <p>The minutes from the December 2015 meeting were discussed and accepted.</p> <p>There were apologies noted from Judy and Ian Schafferius, Chris Du Plessis and Daniel and Katherine West.</p> <p>Actions were reviewed and there are no outstanding actions, other than to find a replacement for a participating landowner to replace Sue Sinnamon as a CCC member.</p> <p>There was also a request at the meeting to review the CCC membership. HO noted this was on the Agenda in Other Business for this meeting, as the project is gaining momentum again, it seemed a good time to review CCC membership.</p>	<p>Note</p>

2. Project status update, project manager changes (HO)

Section 2

See presentation slides 5, 6

HO explained the new project manager changes and that Neil Cooke would be taking over the wind farm development activities from Evan Carless. Neil has previously been managing the AGL Silverton Wind Farm development in NSW.

See presentation slides 7 - 13

NC gave an overview of AGL's decision making in progressing the development application which included the changes in the price of renewable energy, the finalisation of the Renewable Energy Target and AGL's Powering Australian Renewables Fund.

He advised that AGL is undertaking a revised development application process and has gone back to the beginning of this process as there had been changes in the renewable energy industry and in the wind farm.

He advised that the project approval would comply with the Queensland draft Wind Farm Guidelines.

Q1. Will you increase your renewable energy assets or use the RET to allow you to pollute through power stations?

A1. AGL is closing three power stations as part of its contribution to de-carbonisation of the economy and this includes the Loy Yang power station in Victoria. AGL has stated that it's Liddell power station in NSW will be shut by 2022, AGL's Macquarie power station will shut by 2035 and AGL's Loy Yang power station will shut by 2048.

Q2. Why shut down brown coal power stations?

A2. AGL attended the Paris climate talks and supports the Paris Agreement which calls for a reduction in greenhouse gases by 2% or less than pre industrial norms. This is part of AGL's commitment to meeting this target.

Q3. When will the Queensland Draft Code Wind Farm Guidelines be finalised?

A3. They are expected to be finalised mid 2016.

Q4. Is it possible to get a copy of the Queensland Draft State Code Wind Farm Guidelines?

A4. AGL can send out a link to the Guidelines.

Q5. I don't cope well with noise, how can you prevent me from being affected by noise from the wind farm?

A5. The wind farm will comply with the Queensland noise requirements for wind farms of 35dba at a residential property of non financial landowners properties. The requirements allow for reasonable amenity at residential properties.

Q6. Is this inside or outside the house?

HO to send out Queensland Draft Wind Farm Guidelines

<p>A6. Outside the house.</p> <p>Tony Brame said he had a noise monitor on his phone and the noise in the hall right now at the time of the discussion was measuring between 68 – 73dba which was nearly twice the sound levels from wind turbines outside someone’s house.</p> <p>Q7. Will noise affect my property? (<i>question from an observer, it’s not certain where the observer’s house is in relation to the wind farm</i>)</p> <p>A7.The sound from the wind farm will be limited to 35dba outside the homes of non-financial neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There was much general discussion around sound from wind turbines and residential properties and how residents may or may not be affected.</p> <p>It was noted there had been discussions between Brian Lyons of the Cooranga North Concerned Citizens group and members of the community and the committee. The Chair advised that it was important that Mr Lyons comments were not taken out of context and suggested that Mr Lyons may wish to attend the next CCC meeting to clarify any discussions he may have had.</p> <p>An observer noted that he and his wife moved to the area three years and were not aware of the wind farm when they purchased their property, and after speaking with Mr Lyons, they were very concerned about possible health impacts from wind farms. The speaker was also concerned about property values changing due to the wind farms proximity.</p> <p>It was agreed that AGL representatives would meet with the Scutts and Mr McQuaker at their properties to discuss wind farm sound in more detail and to provide expert information regarding health and property values and wind farms.</p> <p>An observer asked to comment and explained his experiences in New Zealand where there are many wind turbines quite close to residential properties and he sees that there are no issues there. He has been up close to them and found them to not be noisy in any significant way.</p> <p>A number of CCC members described their experiences when they visited the Hallett wind farms in SA, which they found to be positive. They even spoke to locals in the town of Burra and their feedback was that they had no issues with the windfarms, other than they had been a good thing for the town and area.</p> <p>A CCC member noted that Mr McQuaker had had the opportunity to participate in the Hallett Wind Farm visit, but he had declined the invitation.</p> <p>Q8. If I can’t stand the wind farm sound, will AGL buy my property at my price?</p> <p>A8. AGL does not purchase properties.</p>	<p>AGL representatives to arrange home visits with the Scutts and Mr McQuaker</p> <p>AGL to provide further credible information on wind farms, health and property values to the Scutts and Mr McQuaker</p>
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<p>3. CCC membership review, Helena Orel (HO)</p> <p><i>See presentation slides 14.</i></p> <p>The Chair noted there were vacancies on the committee and that now might be good time to add new members or refresh the committee.</p> <p>After some general discussion about the committee's make up, Tony Brame noted that he felt it was important that both councils (South Burnett Regional Council and Western Downs Regional Council) remain represented on the committee. The Chair noted that the committee's terms of reference stated that the councils be represented.</p> <p>Cyril Stuart noted that the Concerned Citizens of Cooranga position on the CCC still remained open. Perhaps they would like to participate again.</p> <p>Cyril Stuart stated he would like to nominate Bill Sparkes to replace Sue Sinnamon as participating land owner to the committee.</p> <p>Mick Cosgrove seconded this motion.</p> <p>Mr Scutt was asked if he would like to become a CCC member, he agreed and this motion was seconded by Cyril Stuart.</p> <p>AGL to gain Mr Scutt's contact details and to provide Mr Scutt with further information about being a CCC member.</p>	<p>HO to provide Mr Scutt and Mr Sparkes with CCC membership information and CCC nomination forms</p>
<p>4. QLD Draft Wind Farm State Code and Planning Guideline, Neil Cooke (NC)</p> <p><i>Please see slide 12, 13</i></p> <p>NC gave an update on the progress of the QLD Draft Wind Farm State Code and Planning Guideline, which has been out for public consultation.</p> <p>Q4 When will the Guidelines come into effect?</p> <p>A4 NC said they are now expected to be released in mid 2016, later than previously advised.</p> <p>AGL to discuss wind farm noise in more detail at the next CCC meeting.</p>	<p>NC to present on wind farm noise levels and impacts at next CCC.</p>

<p>5. 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 and a member suggested meeting quarterly now that the project is gaining momentum.</p> <p>It was agreed that the group would meet in June 2016.</p> <p>Next meeting date 23 June 2016.</p> <p>Location: Bell Community 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	Closed	HO
AGL to send out Queensland Draft State Code Wind Farm Guidelines	March 2016	Closed	HO
AGL representatives to arrange home visits with the Scutts and Mr McQuaker	March 2016	Closed	NC
AGL to provide further credible information on wind farms, health and property values to the Scutts and Mr McQuaker	March 2016	Open	NC
AGL to resend CCC nomination forms and CCC Terms of Reference to Bill Sparkes and Jim Scutt	March 2016	Closed	HO
AGL to present on wind farm noise levels and impacts at next CCC.	March 2016	Open	NC