




Project:	Silverton Wind Farm
Meeting No:	15
Date:	Thursday 2 July 2015
Venue and Time:	Silverton Youth Hall 6pm – 7pm
Document:	Meeting minutes and actions
Chair/Facilitator:	Kath Elliott (KE)
Minutes:	Helena Orel (HO), AGL
AGL representatives:	Neil Cooke (NC) Manager, Power Development Helena Orel (HO) Community Stakeholder Engagement Manager
Committee Members	Helen Murray, local resident
	Cynthia Langford, Purnamoota Station
	John Taplin, Secretary Silverton Village Committee
	Phillip Blore, Belmont Station
	Marion Browne, Councillor Broken Hill City Council
	Albert Woodroffe, Silverton Committee, Horizon Galleries
Guests	
Apologies	Steve Radford, Consolidated Mining and Civil
	Ray O'Donnell, Broken Hill Local Aboriginal Land Council
	Naomi Schmidt, Eldee Station
	Kevin White, Historic Daydream Mine
	Peter Price, Silverton Committee/ Silverton Hotel
	Rod Grenfell, local resident
	Tatjana Zelenkova, Chamber of Commerce
	Tiff Brown, Department of Primary Industries, Catchments & Lands
	Dave Gallagher, Councillor Broken Hill City Council
	Cameron Koch, Silver City Minerals
	Rod Grenfell, local resident
Community observers in attendance:	One

Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Kath Elliott (KE) opened the meeting at 6:00pm and welcomed members of the Silverton Community Consultative Committee (SCCC), observers in attendance.</p> <p>KE noted the following apologies from CCC members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Naomi Shmidt - Ray O'Donnell - Steve Radford - Peter Price - Tatjana Zelenkova - Tiff Brown - Dave Gallagher - Cameron Koch - Rod Grenfell <p>KE provided an overview of the agenda.</p> <p>The minutes from the 23rd October 2014 meeting were discussed. The minutes were accepted as correct.</p> <p>Q1. HM asked that should the CCC make any submissions to the Director General and the Minister for Planning, would AGL be included in that submission, as AGL are part of the CCC, noting that AGL also has a vested interest in the development?</p> <p>A1. HO responded that as AGL is the proponent, that AGL wouldn't contribute to the submission.</p> <p>Q2. Are the project tenders now out of date due to the ongoing delays and the time it's taking to reach a conclusion in going ahead with the project?</p> <p>A2. NC responded that yes as they were documents with dates, they are out of date and relevant documents would need to be resubmitted.</p>	
<p>2. Actions from previous meetings</p> <p>Action 1: <i>Remind media representatives present about protocols for interviewing and quoting CCC members</i></p> <p>This action did not apply at this meeting as there were no media representatives present.</p> <p>Action 5: <i>AGL to send out hardcopies of the TMP when it becomes available.</i></p> <p>TMP was distributed at the last meeting and is on AGL's website.</p> <p>Action 6: <i>NC to provide information on indigenous heritage survey work on the wind farm.</i></p> <p>Action 7: <i>AGL to continue contact and consultation with BH LALC</i></p> <p>HO has been meeting with and continuing communication with, and liaising with the LALC.</p> <p>Action 8: <i>Follow up on the EPC tender submissions indigenous employment plans.</i></p> <p>Action 9: <i>Draft letter from the CCC about the project and turbine setbacks to the Director-General and Minister for Planning.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Closed</p> <p>NC Open</p> <p>HO Ongoing</p> <p>NC Open</p> <p>KE Open</p>

2. Project status update

Neil Cooke (NC) provided an overview of the project status.

Please refer to presentation slides 4 - 5

NC explained the recent developments with the Renewable Energy Target (RET) being revised down from 41,000 gigawatt hours to 33,000 gigawatt hours by 2020.

Neil noted that there are many elements for AGL to consider before it can make a final decision on the Silverton wind farm development proposal, including: legislation for the new RET which was passed on 23 June 2015. AGL is now reviewing the impact of the new RET, the oversupply of electricity in the National Electricity Market, and large scale renewable certificate value and AGL's portfolio position.

Q2. Will 33,000 gigawatts be enough for the wind farm to go ahead?

A2. NC answered that AGL still doesn't know enough yet about how the new RET will affect the project decision and that AGL will continue to review it's position on this.

NC reiterated that there are number of steps for AGL to go through, so that it can make a decision on the project. One of which includes reviewing it's project strategy and that is likely to be under consideration to the end of 2015.

Q3. How does the new RET affect power plants?

A3. NC noted that three coal fired power plants have recently closed down or have announced they are about to close down, but it's still not clear what effect this has on energy supply / demand and renewable energy projects.

NC talked about two wind farm projects that had just announced they would go ahead through to construction, now that the RET had been finalised.

There was extensive and vigorous group discussion about the project's ongoing delays. The committee reiterated their ongoing frustration and disappointment caused by how long it is taking AGL to make a decision on the project and the apparent lack of consideration by AGL's decision makers about the community; and the impact this project is having on them.

A4. Will we get an answer either way by the end of the year if the project is going ahead or not?

Q4. NC advised that the expectation is that there will be an answer by the end of 2015.

Q5. Will AGL be applying for a project extension as the second extension is due to expire 16 May 2016?

A5. NC advised there are no plans to apply for a project extension.

2. Select Senate Inquiry Into Wind Turbines

Please refer to presentation slide 6

HO gave an overview of the outcomes of the recent senate inquiry into wind turbines and their regulatory governance as well as economic impacts.

AGL participated in the inquiry and made a submission and senior management presented at a public hearing in Canberra. Two interim reports were released, one of which was a dissenting report. The key points included 11 recommendations. The interim report can be viewed at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Wind_Turbines/Wind_Turbines/Interim_Report

At the same time the interim report was released, Greg Hunt Minister for Environment wrote to government and crossbenchers, in an effort to get the revised RET passed. Minister Hunt committed to:

- Responding to the findings of the select committee
- Advancing the science of wind farm monitoring
- Establishing a wind farm commissioner/ombudsman to resolve complaints
- Publishing on the commissioner's website wind farm locations, approvals, large scale generation certificate data and operational information.

Post meeting note: a final report has now been released from the Senate Inquiry. The final 11 recommendations from the inquiry are on page 15 (XV).

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Wind_Turbines/Wind_Turbines/Final_Report

3. AGL's green house gas policy, Neil Cooke

Please refer to presentation slide 8

NC gave an overview on AGL's greenhouse gas policy which had recently been announced by Andy Vesey, AGL's new CEO. Key points included:

- AGL will continue to provide the market with safe, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy options
- AGL will not build, finance or acquire new conventional coal-fired power stations in Australia (i.e. without carbon capture storage)
- AGL will not extend the operating life of any of its existing coal-fired power stations
- By 2050, AGL will close all existing coal-fired power stations in its portfolio
- AGL will improve the greenhouse gas efficiency of our operations, and those in which we have an influence
- AGL will continue to invest in new renewable and near-zero emission technologies

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGL will make available innovative and cost-effective solutions for our customers such as distributed renewable generation, battery storage, and demand management solutions • AGL will incorporate a forecast of future carbon pricing into all generation capital expenditure decisions • AGL will continue to be an advocate for effective long-term government policy to reduce Australia’s emissions in a manner that is consistent with the long-term interests of consumers and investors. <p>Comments</p> <p>Q6. How will shutting down coal fired power plants affect jobs, as there aren’t many jobs generated by renewable energy?</p> <p>A6. HO discussed that renewable energy projects do create a lot of jobs in the construction stage, but tend to create less jobs for their operating stage.</p>	
<p>4. Other business</p> <p>No other business was raised</p>	
<p>5. Next meeting and close</p> <p>The group agreed to meet at the end of 2015 (between 6pm-8pm) as it is expected that AGL will have an outcome on the project decision. It was agreed that this could be in December, despite it beigen close to Christmas. Alternatively the next meeting could be early in 2016.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 7.30pm</p>	



Action Item	CCC meeting	Status	Who
Speak to the media on behalf of the members before CCC meetings on the protocols of interviewing and quoting members in articles.	October 2013	Ongoing	KE
Provide contact details of the Director General and Minister for Planning for PP for the Silverton Village Committee to write about the project and turbine setbacks on behalf of the village.	March 2014	Closed	HO
Draft letter from the CCC about the project and turbine setbacks to the Director-General and Minister for Planning.	October 2014	Open	KE
Provide information on indigenous heritage survey work on the wind farm.	October 2014	Open	NC
Continue contact and consultation with LALC.	October 2014	Closed	HO
Follow up on the EPC tender submissions indigenous employment plans	October 2014	Open	NC