

Minutes

Woolsthorpe Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee

Meeting date Thursday 20 June 2019

Meeting time and location 10.30am, at the Woolsthorpe Hall

1. Attendees

Cr Colin Ryan (Chair)

Cr Mick Wolfe

Graeme Broderick, Community Representative

Bill Slattery (proxy for Nick Slattery) Community Representative

Glenn Britnell, Community Representative

Scott de Keizer, Woolsthorpe Wind Farm Pty Ltd / Elecnor Australia

Mark Thompson, Woolsthorpe Wind Farm Pty Ltd / Ironstone Capital

Guests:

Juan De Miguez ^{Fernandez} Enerfin

Dave Allen - Project Development Engineer, Siemens Gamesa

Jason Quinn - Site Manager, Siemens Gamesa

Vivek Chandra - Senior Project Manager, Siemens Gamesa

Powercor:

David Holroyd, Codie Wills, Daniel Anderson, Brett Cahill and Barry Thebes.

Vicki Askew-Thornton, Major Projects Liaison Officer, Moyne Shire (non-member)

2. Apologies

Cr Jim Doukas

Alistair Craib, Woolsthorpe Wind Farm Pty Ltd / Ironstone Capital

3. Declarations of interest

Bill Slattery noted that he is a participating landholder.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

Moved by Graeme Broderick, seconded by Cr Wolfe that the minutes of the CEC meeting held on 10 May 2019 be accepted. **CARRIED**

5. Business arising from previous Minutes

5.1 Council will provide Bega's contact details to Powercor to enable consultation regarding the distribution line corridor.

5.2 Contact details will be provided to Scott to enable additional consultation with local CFA Captains Simon Cozens and Steve Stewart regarding the Fire Emergency Response Plan.

- 5.3 Glenn said there was a need for more detailed and frequent communication from the proponent with the public about the project. To be discussed further in Reports.

6. Correspondence Incoming

- 6.1 6 May 2019 – Email from Lisette Mill, Basalt to Bay Landcare Network:

Powercor representatives and Scott agreed to contact Lisette Mill, Basalt to Bay Landcare Network as a matter of urgency.

7. Correspondence Outgoing

Nil.

8. Reports

8.1 Woolsthorpe Wind Farm (WWF) Pty Ltd:

- Siemens Gamesa have been engaged as the lead contractor for the project. <https://www.siemensgamesa.com/en-int>
Siemens Gamesa are the lead contractor for the 56 turbine Bulgana Wind Farm in the Northern Grampians Shire, which will be completed later this year.
- Early design work has commenced for the Woolsthorpe Wind Farm.
- Financial arrangements are progressing.
- The proposed timeline for mobilisation to the site is mid-July.
- There are several Development Plans now being prepared that will need to be approved by the Minister for Planning prior to mobilisation. These include the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and the Traffic Management Plan (TMP).

A permit amendment application is also being prepared. It will request several amendments regarding:

- ◆ Minor wording and layout changes.
- ◆ Improvements to the Condition about offsite landscaping (visual screening) to enable landscaping plans to be developed in conjunction with neighbouring residents whilst the wind farm is under construction.
- ◆ Updating the list of aboriginal stakeholder groups to be consulted for the development of the Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP). <https://w.www.vic.gov.au/aboriginalvictoria/heritage/planning-and-heritage-management-processes/cultural-heritage-management-plans.html>
- An updated native vegetation survey has noted some additional vegetation near the site entry point. The required offsets are being negotiated via Vegetation Link, a brokerage service for permit holders and developers to identify suitable native vegetation credits to meet their planning permit offset requirements.
- Once endorsed, the development and management plans will be placed on the project website.

- Consultancy firm Jacobs is preparing the Fire Emergency Response Plan (FERP). As part of that process, Jacobs was required to consult the CFA at a regional level. As a result, Graeme noted that the CFA regional level had contacted Hawkesdale and Woolsthorpe CFA Captains. Prior to lodgement of the FERP to the Minister for Planning, Dave Allen will contact the local CFA Captains to consult directly with them.
Jason Quinn spoke about the Bulgana Wind Farm site, where liaison with the local CFA had been valuable in relation to wind farm entrance gate locations and the installation of additional water tanks at the site.
- It is expected there will be approximately 60 personnel on site at the peak of the wind farm civil works, and up to 90 during the turbine construction stage.
- Siemens Gamesa have opened the tender process for the various work packages for the wind farm construction. This includes the supply of quarry material.
- The Traffic Management Plan (TMP) is almost completed, prior to submission to DELWP, Vicroads and Council for review. It will include information about:
 - o Proposed quarry sources and haulage routes to the project site.
 - o Estimated volumes of material required.
 - o Estimated number of heavy haulage traffic movements for each route.
 - o The regulatory process to be followed if an additional quarry source is required after construction has commenced.

During construction, all project related vehicles will access the site directly from the Woolsthorpe-Heywood Road.

Council noted that it would request the placement of identification 'magnets' or similar on all project related light and heavy vehicles at the commencement of construction. Examples from other projects can be provided by Council.

If necessary, signage on non-approved local roads may also be a useful measure that can be discussed with Council, once the TMP is submitted for review.
- A Communications Plan is also being finalised: Scott agreed to distribute the Plan to the CEC for discussion.

8.2 Powercor:

- A) Powercor is an electricity distribution authority. Ausnet, which has constructed other wind farm transmission lines in Moyne Shire, is a transmission licence holder and builds connections that are much larger than the connection required for the Woolsthorpe Wind Farm.
- The Woolsthorpe Wind Farm distribution line will be much smaller than, for example, the Salt Creek Wind Farm transmission line.
- Summary of information about the 66kV distribution line:
- o 18 km in length, from the onsite substation to be constructed on the wind farm site to the existing Koroit Zone substation.
 - o 7.2 km of the line will be a new-build. The remaining 10.8 km will be an 'overbuild' of the existing distribution line.
 - o The poles will be wooden.

- The visible section of the new poles will be up to 15 metres high. The new poles will be up to 4 metres higher than the existing poles on the line.
- Survey work is still being undertaken and should be finished by the end of June, then detailed designs can be done.
- Powercor will prepare all the required plans for the distribution line including an Environmental Management Plan (EMP).
Graeme Broderick asked if Powercor would provide copies of the development plans to the CEC, to which Powercor agreed.
- In the overbuild section, replacement of some of the old poles will be considered.
- The capacity of the distribution network is 75MW. Therefore it could not accommodate the power generated by the Hawkesdale Wind Farm if it was constructed. To consider possible line-sharing options with the proponent for the Hawkesdale Wind Farm (GPG), earlier engagement would have been required as the cost of a potential line-sharing option would need to be shared.
The proponent agreed to make contact with GPG regarding this matter.

- B) Glenn Britnell emphasised that the provision of information about the distribution line is important, so that the community can understand how the consultation and planning has been undertaken and what the line will look like once completed.**
Because little information about the overall project was provided to the public by the previous owner, it is even more important that improved and more frequent communication commences now.
Communication with the public about the line will be informed by Powercor but come from the proponent.

Graeme Broderick requested, and Powercor agreed to provide information to the CEC about their maintenance regime, for discussion at the next meeting.

- C) Council's recent resolution regarding the undergrounding of transmission lines for wind farms was reiterated and discussed. The rationale for that resolution included:**
- The potential proliferation of transmission lines due to the number of wind farms operating and proposed in Moyne Shire.
 - The visual impact of multiple large overhead wind farm transmission lines.
 - Increased fire risk from overhead lines.

Summary of discussion about the potential to underground the new-build sections of the distribution line:

- Powercor is obliged to offer the lowest-cost option to the proponent.
- An underground option may be feasible, but cost-prohibitive.

- Building overhead lines rather than trenching can have less impact on, for example, the native vegetation in the corridor.
- The planning and building of an underground line takes more time.

8.3 Community Representative feedback

Graeme Broderick agreed to share the submission he made regarding the Permit application for the wind farm with the CEC members.

Glenn Britnell suggested a community meeting could be hosted by the proponent soon to provide information about the project.

Community information sessions were also suggested as an alternative method to inform the public.

The proponent is in the process of appointing locally-based community relations personnel. Once appointed, they will be able to attend CEC meetings.

The project website will also be updated regularly.

8.4 Council

CEC representatives are encouraged to actively liaise with the public about items that are discussed at meetings, and to bring issues and questions to the CEC meetings for discussion.

For now, enquiries and questions that need to be addressed more urgently can be passed on to Scott De Keizer directly.

9. General business

The Committee agreed that in future, draft CEC minutes can be placed onto Councils website after being reviewed by the Committee members via email.

10. Date of next CEC meeting

^{26 July}
~~Friday 21 June, 10.30pm at the Woolsthorpe Hall~~

Confirmed this ²⁶ / ⁷ / ²⁰¹⁹

Chair 

Minutes are to be registered in Moyne Shire's electronic document management system by the committee reporting officer immediately following the Minutes' confirmation and signing

