

**Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting Minutes**  
**Gullen Range Wind Farm**

Date:	Wednesday 6 November 2019
Location:	Crookwell Council Chambers, Spring Street, Crookwell
Time:	5.30pm to 7.30pm
Attendance:	Peter Gordon (Chair)  Dimity Taylor (Community Representative)  Councillor Paul Culhane from Upper Lachlan Shire (ULSC)  Leo Pearce (Asset Manager -NGRWF)  Isabel Nelson (Community Engagement Officer – NGRWF)
Apologies:	Charley Barber (Community Representative)  Rosemary Howe (Community Representative)  Scott Martin, Business Manager from Goulburn Mulwaree Council

**Introduction by Chair (Peter Gordon)**

- Absence of Council and Community representatives noted

**Conflicting and Pecuniary Interests**

- None

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- Minutes from 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were approved and are on the website.

**Business arising from the Previous Minutes**

- No business arising from previous minutes

**ACTION items from Previous Minutes**

- GRWF updated the contact details in the CIP and added Goulburn Mulwaree representatives (see the CIP item below).
- In the last meeting, committee members were asked to consider whether there was evidence of particular groups in the community that are not being reached by the activities undertaken as described in the CIP. It was decided this would be better discussed during the next meeting when more members are present.

### **Issues raised by community representatives**

- The CCC is seeking expressions of interest for community representatives. The Committee discussed how to attract new community representatives to join the CCC.
- Asked if there had been any Wedge-Tailed Eagle (WTE) strikes in 2019, GRWF reported there had been no WTE strikes identified so far in 2019.

### **Correspondence**

- No correspondence.

### **Company Reports and Overview of Activities (Leo Pearce and Isabel Nelson)**

- CLEP update: Approx. **110** buildings have completed Stage 1 of the Program, with another two applications recently received. **65** Stage 2 applications have been approved so far, with **58** installations completed to date. For the Q3 2019 Funding Round, GRWF has received **3** Stage two applications. The next Funding Round (Q4 2019) closes on 22<sup>nd</sup> December. To further publicise the Program within the community, GRWF circulated a CLEP news release in October to the local media and talked about the CLEP on the local radio.
- Community Fund: Nine local groups received Community Fund grants together totalling \$72,427 in the 2019/2020 Funding Round. The announcement was made by Upper Lachlan Shire Council who administer the Fund. A full list of successful community grant recipients can be found on the Gullen Range Wind Farm website: [gullenrangewindfarm.com](http://gullenrangewindfarm.com)
- Community Tours: Community tours continue to be held regularly at GRWF, with two booked-out tours held in October including the Clean Energy Councils National Clean Energy Open day tour. The final tour of the year will be on 19<sup>th</sup> November. GRWF has continued to work with Crookwell Visitor Information Centre (Upper Lachlan Shire Council) who now operate the tour booking service. Crookwell 2 Wind Farm hosted their first public tours as part of the same program in August and September.

GRWF also recently hosted a tour for students from the University of New South Wales and members from Engineers Australia.

- Schools:
  - As part of the [STEM Industry Schools Partnership \(SISP\)](#) program coordinated by Regional Development Australia Southern Inland, GRWF has: (1) undertaken school incursions involving Bradfordville and Wollondilly Public Schools and (2) attended the STEM Showcase day at Crookwell High School, where six local schools presented their SISP renewable energy projects to the local community and industry partners.
  - In August, GRWF attended Crookwell High School's positive education breakfast, which aimed to promote better mental health and well-being of students.
  - GRWF subsidised travel costs for Crookwell High School's Year 10 and 11 students' cultural excursion to see Shakespeare's Macbeth play at the Sydney Opera House.

- Sponsorship: BJCE Australia, including GRWF, was a major sponsor of the Cancer Council's recent Goulburn Relay for Life 2019 event.
- Community Information Plan (CIP): GRWF updated the CIP, which was circulated prior to the meeting. The Committee approved the amendments during the meeting provided the CCC Chair's (Peter Gordon) contact details are also added to the 2019 CIP update. The final version of the 2019 CIP will be circulated with the minutes of this meeting.
- Annual Energy and Emissions Report: The GRWF Annual Energy and Emissions Report was submitted to the Clean Energy Regulator in October as required by the Clean Energy Regulator.
- Compensatory Habitat Management Plan Area:
  - Revegetation works have recently been carried out by Greening Australia, which include:
    - Planting 200 plants
    - Grass seeding in thin areas
    - Maintenance of 100 existing plantings
  - Pest animal, weed and vegetation surveys of the Offset Area have just been carried out. A summary of the survey findings will be reported at the next CCC meeting.
- Community Complaints and Response to Complaints: No new complaints have been received since the last CCC meeting. The noise complaint received in June concerning a Kialla wind turbine has now been resolved and the complainant has been informed of the actions taken.
- GRWF update on recent developments
  - An extension to the existing substation is required to accommodate the additional energy from Biala Wind Farm (BWF). An underground transmission line is also being constructed between BWF and GRWF to transmit energy from BWF to the national electricity grid. GRWF gave an update regarding the substation extension and transmission line at GRWF. Work has recently commenced on the sub-station extension at GRWF and the underground transmission line between GRWF and BWF, starting from the GRWF end of the route. Estimated completion times were provided for these works, which are also posted on the Biala Wind farm website: [bialawindfarm.com](http://bialawindfarm.com)
  - Using a NSW Government's Clean Energy Knowledge Sharing Initiative grant, Goldwind Australia undertook a high-level theoretical feasibility study to explore the idea of co-locating a bio-ethanol peaker plant with NSW wind and/or solar farms. GRWF was chosen as a project concept location for the theoretical study. Goldwind have advised BJCE Australia that the study identified it is not an economically feasible concept for GRWF. BJCE Australia was not involved with the study but was made aware that the report would soon be published online.

### **Action Items**

- GRWF to add the Chair's contact details to the CIP and circulate the final version to the CCC members with the minutes.
- Committee members were asked to consider whether there is evidence of particular groups in the community that are not being reached by the activities undertaken as described in the CIP and to provide feedback at the next meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

- The proposed date for the next meeting is Wednesday, 11th March 2020 at 5.30pm.