

## Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting Minutes

### Gullen Range Wind Farm

Date:	Wednesday, 2 September 2020
Location:	Via video/teleconference
Time:	5.30pm to 6.20pm
Attendance:	Peter Gordon (Chair)  Dimity Taylor (Community Representative)  Charley Barber (Community Representative)  Rosemary Howe (Community Representative)  Scott Martin from Goulburn Mulwaree Council (GMC)  Leo Pearce (Asset Manager -NGRWF)  Isabel Nelson (Community Engagement Officer – NGRWF)
Apologies:	Councillor Paul Culhane from Upper Lachlan Shire (ULSC) – Paul attempted to join at the beginning but was unable to establish communication.

#### **Introduction by Chair (Peter Gordon)**

#### **Conflicting and Pecuniary Interests**

- None

#### **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- Minutes from 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020 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 circulated the final version of the 2019 CIP Review to the CCC members with the minutes and posted it to the website. GRWF also circulated an email publicising the CLEP and the graphs showing generation data to the CCC with the minutes.
- GRWF provided the CCC with the advert regarding the Community Representative position vacancy on the Community Fund Committee.

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

- Some concerns were raised regarding work carried out for the Biala Wind Farm Project. These concerns will be forwarded to the Biala Wind Farm Project Manager to respond to.

### **Correspondence**

- No correspondence.

### **NGRWF to brief the meeting on recent developments**

- COVID-19 response: In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, GRWF continues to implement protocols to protect the communities in which it operates, its employees, contractors and suppliers. Details of the mitigation measures GRWF has in place are available on the GRWF website: [gullenrangewindfarm.com](http://gullenrangewindfarm.com)

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

- Clean Energy Program (CLEP) update:
  - CLEP Stage 1 household energy efficiency audits have recommenced, with COVID safety measures in place. The audits are currently conducted via telephone and an outdoor site visit, with social distancing and good hygiene being maintained.
  - Approx. **124** buildings have completed Stage 1 of the Program and one further application has recently been received. **71** Stage 2 applications have been approved so far, noting that a previously approved grant application has been withdrawn by the applicant prior to any payment or installation taking place. **64** installations completed to date. For the Q2 2020 Funding Round, GRWF has received **0** Stage two applications. The next Funding Round (Q3 2020) closes on 22<sup>nd</sup> September.
- Community Fund:
  - The Community Fund Workshop took place on 14<sup>th</sup> July, with 8 attendees. The workshop was well received.
  - There is a Community Representative vacancy to fill on the GRWF Community Fund Committee. ULSC has advertised to fill this position on their website [here](#) and GRWF has circulated the advert with the CCC. The closing date for applications is 4pm on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020.
- Community Tours:
  - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 tours are still suspended until further notice. Members of the public can register on the GRWF website to be notified when the tours recommence.

- Schools:
  - As part of the [STEM Industry Schools Partnership \(SISP\) program](#), BJCE Australia (including GRWF):
    - Zoomed into Crookwell Public School in June to take the students on a ‘virtual tour’ of the wind and solar farm.
    - Presented the industry award to the student team ‘Exquisite Engineers’ at Crookwell Public School’s Wind Power Showcase in July.
    - Organised a wind turbine blade viewing in July at the Crookwell Showgrounds for Year 5/6 students from Crookwell Public School and Year 8 students from Crookwell High School. The students were divided into small groups throughout the day and enjoyed a guided tour around the wind turbine blade.
  - In August, BJCE Australia zoomed into the classroom of year 5/6 students from St. Mary’s Primary School in Crookwell. Students made an anemometer and were able to measure the wind speed generated by fans inside the classroom. The event was coordinated by Jo Marshall from the Crookwell Australian Agricultural Centre (AAC) as part of STEM Connect@AAC.
- Sponsorship:
  - Since the last CCC, GRWF has sponsored the Gunning Arts Festival FlashWrite project aimed at showcasing local stories. For more information about the Gunning Arts Festival and how to get involved with the FlashWrite project, please click [here](#).
  - The COVID-19 pandemic has left many local charity groups worried about funding and future fundraising initiatives. In May, BJCE Australia provided donations of \$1,000 to several Crookwell charities including Crookwell Meals on Wheels, Crookwell CWA Day Branch and Crookwell/Taralga Aged Care /Upper Lachlan Community Care.
- Monitoring and Environmental Performance:
  - A Wedged-tail eagle carcass was found in the vicinity of a wind turbine on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) have been notified and a financial contribution to WIRES has been made, which is required by condition 2.37 of the Project Approval.
  - Compensatory Habitat Management Plan Area:
    - Revegetation works have recently been carried out by Greening Australia, which include planting 300 native trees and shrubs and 200 native grasses.
    - Cameras have been deployed to monitor pest animals.
    - One pig and 2 goats have recently been removed from the Offset area.

- Pig traps have been loaned to a local Landcare group and wind farm neighbours.
  
- Clean Energy Council (CER) Emissions and Energy Reporting System (EERS): Report submitted to the Clean Energy Regulator
  
- Community Complaints and Response to Complaints: NGRWF received two noise complaints since the last CCC meeting. Both complaints were investigated and have now been resolved.

#### **Summary of Action Items**

- **GRWF to circulate the graphs showing generation data to the CCC with the minutes.**
  
- **GRWF to forward concerns related to the Biala Wind Farm Project to the Biala Wind Farm Project Manager.**

#### **Next Meeting**

- The proposed date for the next meeting is TBC.