

Crookwell 2 and 3 Windfarm Community Consultative Committee

Minutes of the third meeting of the CCC

Time 4.00PM Wednesday 1 February 2017

Venue CWA Hall Spring Street Crookwell

Attendance: Peter Gordon (Independent Chair), Steve Ward and John Carter as Community Representatives, Councillor Paul Culhane from Upper Lachlan Shire and Shaq Mohajerani and William Alonso (Engineering Manager) representing Crookwell Development Pty Ltd.

Apologies: Maurice Newman and Chris Croker.

Humphrey Price-Jones requested attendance at the meeting which was granted and welcomed as an observer to the meeting.

Peter Gordon welcomed all to the third meeting of the new committee and in particular welcomed John Carter and William Alonso to their first meeting.

No new pecuniary or other interests were declared. John Carter and William Alonso to complete the code of conduct and conflict of interests forms in advance of the next meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of meeting on 16th November 2016 were accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.

Members noted that the minutes and other CCC records are now easily accessed through the Union Fenosa Wind Australia website.

Business arising from previous minutes — response to issues raised or provision of additional information requested

Shaq reported on findings related to the apparent inconsistency between ground level wind experienced by the CCC members during the site inspection in November, and activation of some nearby operating turbines. The measured data from wind monitoring mast on the wind farm site showed that the wind speed at higher levels during that interval was less than what was required to activate some turbines, although it was perceived as windy at ground level when the committee was on a site inspection in November.

Correspondence – nil

Technical issues. Covered under the company report below.

Company reports and overview of activities:

Shaq reported on the closure of the consultation period related to the Crookwell 2 Wind Farm Modification Application (Mod-2) and the Crookwell 3 Wind Farm Addendum. Public submissions were invited until Monday 14th November 2016. Shaq also noted that nine government agencies had also provided written submissions.

Feedback following the public consultations is being consolidated and will be presented to the next meeting. It was noted that a much higher proportion of submissions had been supportive than were objecting. Details will be provided at the next meeting, noting that it is initially the government responsibility to react to the various inputs. In the meantime, CDPL consultants are preparing detailed responses to issues raised in the public consultations. The holiday season had delayed the finalisation of this work.

It was noted that the next phase of the Crookwell 2 Wind Farm construction is likely to start in April 2017, and it is anticipated to be completed by September 2018. Discussion was had as the impact of construction including the need to minimise disturbance to traffic movements especially in peak times.

Shaq noted that the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) will probably hold another public hearing on the Crookwell 3 Wind Farm application at some time in 2017.

John also noted his and others interest in monitoring how well CDPL met its approval conditions. The committee welcomed this comment as it was confirmed as a function of the CCC to be involved in monitoring how well the company complied with approval conditions.

John raised concern on impact to television reception, explaining previous experience from Crookwell 1 Wind Farm. John also raised concern about infrasound and how it can effects some people and not others, and in his own experience he has found that infrasound can also effect his cattle.

The Chair asked John and others to come back to future meetings with a sense of which particular conditions it might focus on. Preliminary discussion concentrated on impact to the skyline by placing turbines on such locations as Pigman Hill and Monument Hills, and also proximity of turbines to the roads. Following a suggestion from John, Shaq agreed to follow up on identifying the details on a previous report prepared by Scenic Spectrum Pty Ltd (Williamson) [Jan 2005] who made detailed recommendations some time ago on the preferable proximity of the turbines to roads.

John Carter reflected an interest by others including Maurice Newman in seeking that a future meeting going to some detail in understanding the company's turbine decommissioning strategies. Shaq spent some time explaining the regulatory provisions

within the approval process which is intended to ensure that any wind farm operator is taking obvious steps to allow for the cost of future decommissioning. Shaq also offered to see if he can find out what the decommissioning provisions were committed to by the operators of Crookwell 1 Wind Farm. Cr Culhane also agreed to investigate if this information is held by Council.

Issues identified by the community or local government representatives

Members generally supported the idea that CDPL look at investigating what provisions could be required to reduce this traffic impact for the construction phase which may include provision for an overtaking lane or at least a siding on the road from Goulburn to Crookwell. This is in recognition of the fact that many heavy vehicles will be using the Goulburn road and in most sections overtaking is impossible, thereby dramatically affecting traffic flow. Other options could include allowing earlier over-size deliveries to site to avoid morning peak traffic.

Community complaints and response to complaints

CDPL will table a complaints register at future meetings as is required under the CCC guidelines. The company currently has a free call number (1800 457 181) for all community enquiries, this number will be used for the community complaints process once the next phase of construction in early 2017 has commenced. The company website also has an enquiry form that will be used for the community complaints process.

General business

- Shaq offered to provide dates for the likely start of road construction for the section of Woodhouselee Road north of the wind farm site and for the intended publication of tenders for civil and electrical works.
- In response to a request from the Chair, William briefed the committee on his extensive background in the energy industry, and presented his insights into developments in renewable energy in Europe.
- The Chair agreed that members can ask him to include items on future agendas and to put members of the public directly in touch if considered necessary.

Next meeting

The meetings scheduled for the first half of 2017 are:

- 1 March
- 5 April
- 3 May
- 7 June

The venue is the CWA Hall in Crookwell unless otherwise agreed and the meetings will commence at 4.00pm. The meeting schedule, venue and time may be changed subject to availability, and will be notified in advance of the scheduled event.

Peter Gordon

Independent Chair

Crookwell 2 and 3 Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee

February 2017