



Minutes

Hawkesdale Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee

Meeting date Monday 8 May 2025
Meeting time and location 2.30pm at the Hawkesdale Memorial Hall

1. Welcome

2. Present

Cr Lloyd Ross (Chair)
Anne Maree Huglin, HADDAC Representative
Peter Hennig, Community Representative
Debra Dumesny, GPG Community and Stakeholder Engagement Officer

Vicki Askew-Thornton, CEC Responsible Officer, Moyne Shire

3. Apologies

Nil.

4. Declarations of Interest

Nil.

5. Confirmation of Minutes of 19 February 2024 meeting

Moved by Anne Maree Huglin, seconded by Debra Dumesny that the minutes of the CEC meeting held on 22 July 2024 be accepted. **CARRIED**

6. Actions arising from the previous Minutes

GPG	Print a copy of the noise monitoring and commissioning flowchart for display in the Post Office. This action was completed following the last meeting. Anne-Maree noted that there still seems to be confusion in the community about commissioning and operational stages.
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7. Correspondence Incoming


Date	Item	Attachment Number
August 2024 – April 2025	Project updates and newsletters from GPG GPG noted that newsletters will now be produced quarterly, and Council will forward these to the CEC members.	

8. Correspondence Outgoing

Nil.

9. Reports/Updates

9.1 GPG:



2. Project update – wind farm

- ✓ **Operation:**
 - AEMO approval for operation received on 11th December
 - Collector sub station lighting is only on if work is taking place overnight
 - Aviation lights – under review
 - Planting of tress will be completed to mitigate the view of the collector substation from Woolsthorpe Heywood Road.
 - Intersections remediated
- ✓ **Post Construction noise monitoring :**
 - Monitors are in position
 - Servicing is continuing
 - Special Audible Characteristics (SACs) have been completed, 2 day and 1 night as required by the endorsed Noise Management Plan
- ✓ **The personnel on site :**
 - GPGA – Site Manager and Site Supervisor (to start next week)
 - Vestas – Site Supervisor and maintenance team depending on requirements (Up to 10 Full time personnel)
 - The staff above are shared between Hawkesdale and Ryan Corner
- ✓ **Bird and Avi Fauna Management:**
 - Bats – 2 rounds of detectors/recorders and 2 rounds of weekly intensive searches are completed, monthly searches are ongoing
 - Brolgas –2024 breeding surveys completed (July – Dec)

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Further discussion:

- 11 December 2024 was the formal commencement of operation of the wind farm.
- The second community benefit fund, for the wider community, was to commence 12 months after operation started but GPG has brought the date forward and that fund is now established. The scope of this fund is within a 30km radius of the wind farm site.
- Instead of visual landscape screening around the onsite substation, which was not supported by the CFA, GPG is working with one of the landholders to establish a length of screening along one of the internal fencelines.
- There is now a wheel-wash bay at the entrance to the wind farm for biosecurity reasons. Therefore, the site can only be accessed by 4WD.
- The red flashing aviation lights are a requirement of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and the Permit. GPG has had requests from the community to turn them off. GPG is considering a case to put to CASA regarding this.

Noise monitoring:

- The noise monitoring program for this wind farm has dual reporting pathways – one via the Minister for Planning/Department of Transport and Planning (DTP), and one via the EPA.
- The program will be undertaken for 12-18 months as per the approved noise management plan.
https://hawkesdalewindfarm.globalpower-generation.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/HDWF_NMP-002.pdf
- The data collected will be analysed and the results will be included in the reports required to be submitted to DTP and the EPA.
- Enquiries about the process can be made with GPG.
- Noise complaints should be submitted to the EPA and to GPG.

Bat and Avifauna Management Plan (BAMP):

- There has been one Brolga sighting on the site which has been reported as per the BAMP requirements.
<https://hawkesdalewindfarm.globalpower-generation.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Report-14144-17.7-Hawkesdale-Wind-Farm-BAMP-Endorsed.pdf>

Permanent Staff:

- There are 2 permanent staff members onsite across the two wind farms, and a permanent crew of 10 Vestas personnel that carries out ongoing maintenance across both sites.



- All installation works along the transmission line and connection at the Tarrone North terminal station completed
- All remediation works completed

4. Community engagement & Benefit Sharing



- **Community engagement**
 - September and December newsletters available
 - Final quarterly construction update in Warrnambool Standard December 2024

➤ Benefit sharing

- **Neighbour Benefit Program**
 - ✓ Neighbour contacts have recommenced
- **Community Benefit Fund (Township Grant Program)**
 - ✓ The 2024 township grant – 6 successful applicants
 - HADDAC
 - Hawkesdale College
 - Hawkesdale Recreation Reserve
 - Hawkesdale Racecourse Reserve
 - Hawkesdale Cricket Club
 - Hawkesdale Memorial Hall
 - ✓ 2025 applications opened 5/5/2025 for both the Township Grant Program and the District Grant Program

✓ Complaints Management

- No complaints received since the last meeting.
- GPG are providing periodic reports to Moyne Shire Council about the status of complaints received. The last report covered the quarter up to 31/12/2024
- Annual Complaints Report submitted to DEECA for period ending 21/08/2024
- All complaints are closed.

4. Complaints Investigation and Response Plan (CIRP)

The CIRP was endorsed on December 6 2022 and can be found on our web site at <https://ryancornerwindfarm.globalpower-generation.com.au/> following the link The Project>Relevant documentation.

All relevant documentation and forms for lodging a complaint are found on the web site under Contact Us.

Complaints can be made in the following ways:

Phone: 1800 457 181 or 0428 867 646

E-mail: debra.dumesny@globalpower-generation.com.au
ryancornerwindfarm@globalpower-generation.com.au

Mail: Ryan Corner Development Pty Ltd
 Suite A, Level 3, 73 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra ACT 2601

9.2 Community Representatives:

On behalf of HADDAC, Anne Maree asked:

- What capacity is the wind farm operating at?
 Debra responded that the wind farm is able to operate at 100% capacity.

There are three reasons why some or all turbines may not be operating at certain times, even when it is windy:

1. Repairs
 2. Scheduled maintenance
 3. The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) directing the wind farm to be turned off due to electricity oversupply in the grid.
- HADDAC feels that the feedback it has provided via the CEC about the fund committee and decision-making has not been taken on board. Debra responded that as discussed at a previous CEC meeting, appointments to the fund committee were made on a range of criteria but not gender. HADDAC is keen to pursue a 'planning process' to identify long term strategic projects, which Council may be able to advise on. Debra responded that GPG is very open to funding applications for all types of projects.

If there are unspent funds in any particular year, they will accumulate.

Peter noted it is a complicated scenario when some community facilities managed by a Committee and have multiple varied user-groups.

9.3 Council:

Council had emailed out copies of the CEC Charter and Code of Conduct, and tabled hard copies at the meeting. It is not compulsory for CEC members to sign the Code of Conduct.

10. General business

It was agreed that meetings be held bi-monthly until the end of 2025.

Debra will check if the next CEC meeting can be held at the wind farm site office.

A suggestion was made that the CEC have combined meetings with the Ryan Corner Wind Farm CEC. Vicki will follow this up to gauge their interest.

Next meeting date – Thursday 10 July

Venue: Hawkesdale Wind Farm site TBC

Confirmed this / /

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