

Mortlake South Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee

Meeting date Wednesday 4 July 2018
Meeting time and location 10am, Council office – Mortlake

1. Attendees

Cr Jim Doukas (Chair)
Cr Jill Parker
Cr Ian Smith
Bruce Donaldson, Community Representative
Peter Rooke, Community Representative
Kelvin Goodall, Community Representative
Ben McInness, Acciona
Vicki Askew-Thornton, Major Projects Liaison Officer, Moyne Shire

2. Apologies

Neil Blain, Community Representative
Michelle Holmes, Acciona

3. Welcome

Cr Doukas welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Declaration of interest

Nil.

5. Minutes of previous meeting

Moved by Bruce Donaldson, seconded by Peter Rooke that the minutes of the CEC meeting held on 16 April 2018 be accepted with the following amendment:

6. Business arising

Re section 9.3 Council Report: Motion from Cr Parker that the CEC request that Council write to the State Government regarding issues around the placement of wind farm transmission lines, and requesting that the State Government require consultation between proponents and Council to occur early in the wind farm planning process.

Discussion: Following a Council workshop held in June involving all wind farm proponents with projects planned in Moyne Shire, Council wrote to the Minister for

Planning, the National Wind Farm Commissioner, the Municipal Association of Victoria, Rural Councils Victoria and Victorian rural Councils expressing its concern regarding wind farm transmission line issues. Therefore, Cr Parker as the mover of the motion agreed that there was no need for the CEC to make the request of Council.

Kelvin Goodall informed the CEC that MCDL is also writing to the Minister for Planning regarding this issue.

Ben McInness said that Acciona had discussed transmission lines issues with DELWP more broadly, and that Acciona believed transmission lines should be included in the planning process for wind farms.

7. Correspondence incoming

Nil.

8. Correspondence outgoing

Nil.

9. Reports

9.1 Acciona

Refer to *Attachment 1 – Acciona Project Update*

Additional information and discussion:

- A statewide wind farm ‘open day’ is being planned for October. Ben will email further details to the CEC in due course.
- Some of the design aspects for the project are on-hold until the VRET announcements are made at the end of July.
- Acciona’s position is that it would prefer to share the Salt Creek Wind Farm (SCWF) transmission line. If this isn’t possible, Acciona will need to build a separate line.

Tilt Renewables (TR) has commissioned a technical report to determine how the output from 2 projects could ‘interact’ in a shared line which is an important factor that has a bearing on the network system’s strength and reliability.

Acciona will meet with TR in the coming weeks regarding the outcome of the report.

9.2 Community Representatives

Peter Rooke expressed disbelief that a transmission line as big as the SCWF line cannot take more than one wind farm’s power. Peter understood that the poles had also not been constructed to enable more wires to be attached, and asked whether Ausnet should take part of the blame.

It was agreed that the community's reaction to the SCWF transmission line has been caused by a combination of factors including;

- The relatively small size of the SCWF versus the size and length of the line.
- The appearance of the poles.
- The zig-zagging of the route to avoid having to negotiate private land agreements for the corridor.
- The line wasn't built to be shared.
- Inadequate and untimely communication with the public about the size of the transmission line infrastructure.

Bruce Donaldson noted that with the current lack of strategic planning for transmission lines it is difficult to compel a developer to build a line that can be shared in the future.

Kelvin Goodall noted that more people than expected are dropping in to the Mortlake Information Centre at its temporary premises at the Terang-Mortlake Health Service building.

9.3 Council

Cr Smith asked about the timing for the project if Acciona's VRET tender was successful.

Ben McInness responded that September 2020 would be the target completion date, therefore the public road upgrade stage of the project would need to start in early 2019. If a new transmission line is required it would need to be started in mid-2019 and completed in early 2020 to be ready for the wind farm commissioning stage.

Vicki noted that the Permit requires Acciona to submit a range of plans to the Minister for Planning for endorsement prior to the project commencing. Council has been working with Acciona regarding the draft Traffic Management Plan which must be prepared in consultation with Council and VicRoads. The quarry sources have not been confirmed at this stage, and Acciona is still assessing if there is any suitable stone on-site.

10. General Business

A discussion was held regarding the process of appointing Community Representatives. Vicki explained that the most recent appointment for Kelvin Goodall followed due process which included a motion from the CEC, a report to Council, then advertising of the vacancy. Council then selects the successful nominee.

Cr Parker moved, Cr Smith seconded that the CEC requests that Council change the CEC Charter to increase the number of Community Representatives on the Committee to five, and that Lisa Allen be appointed to fill the vacancy. **CARRIED**

11. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15 August 2018, 10am

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.