

Mortlake South Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee

Meeting date Wednesday 22 May 2019

Meeting time and location 10.30am, Council office – Mortlake

Minutes

1. Attendees

Cr Jim Doukas (Chair)
Cr Ian Smith
Peter Rooke, Community Representative
Kelvin Goodall, Community Representative
Bruce Donaldson, Community Representative
Neil Blain, Community Representative
Andrew Tshaikiwsky – Project Director, Acciona
Kirsten Lee – Community Relations Coordinator, Acciona
Jane McKinnon - Community Relations Coordinator, Acciona

Vicki Askew-Thornton, Major Projects Liaison Officer, Moyne Shire

2. Apologies

Cr Jill Parker

3. Welcome

Cr Doukas welcomed Andrew Tshaikiwsky to the meeting.

4. Declaration of Interest

Nil.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by Kelvin Goodall, seconded by Cr Smith that the minutes of the CEC meeting held on 24 April 2019 be accepted. **CARRIED**

6. Business Arising

- 6.1: The recommendation from the April CEC meeting for Council to increase the number of community representatives will be considered at next week's Council meeting.
- 6.2: Acciona's consideration of whether to publish the predictive noise modelling report will be held over until the June meeting.

- 6.3 Community meeting held at Noorat on 7 May:
- Acciona has emailed a copy of their power point presentation and other information about the project to those who listed their contact details on the attendee list. Acciona has not received any response from the recipients.
 - It was generally agreed that the meeting gave an opportunity for attendees to raise questions relating to construction, and other matters including aerial firefighting and decommissioning of turbines.
 - It was also agreed that at times the discussion went outside the aims that were stated in the meeting flyer and invitation.
 - It was good that Acciona had a team of representatives in attendance.
 - The meeting highlighted that the CEC should discuss how to better communicate its role and membership details to the public. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

7. Correspondence Incoming

- 7.1 Letter of support from Acciona for increased number of community representatives – has been emailed to the CEC, and included as an attachment to the report being presented at next week's Council meeting.
- 7.2 Acciona project report – emailed to the CEC.

8. Correspondence Outgoing

Nil.

9. Reports

9.1 Acciona

Refer to **Attachment 1 - Acciona Project Update**.

Summary of additional information and discussion:

Construction:

- The Tapps Lane, Grinters Lane, and the intersection of Tapps Lane/Terang-Mortlake Road should be finished by the end of this week, ready for the Road Quality Auditor and Council inspection that is required before formal sign-off of completion.
The western section of Chamallak Lane should be finished by mid next week. Following sign-off of the external road upgrades, works will commence inside the wind farm site during June.
Replacement of the Tapps Lane Bridge will occur throughout June. This work will require closure of that section of Tapps Line for approximately 2 weeks. The road closure will require Council approval. Conditions of the approval will include a detour route and written notification to local landholders. Council will also advertise the closure in local newspapers.
- Acciona tabled the site map, which shows the internal track layout and access points. The first access tracks to be constructed will be those coming directly off Tapps, Chamallack and Grinters Lanes.
- Acciona can include the approved haulage routes in the next project newsletter and the construction updates that are placed in local newspapers. The importance of using the words 'approved routes' was highlighted by the Committee.
- Council will provide a copy of the latest endorsed Secondary TMP to the CEC.

- Consistent communication from Acciona to their contractors regarding the approved routes is highly important.
- Use of the Sisters quarry will recommence once construction of internal tracks gets started, and extend for approximately 4 months.
- Currently, approximately 50-70 loads of quarry material per day are being delivered to the site. This will increase, once the batching plant starts operating and the internal track construction gets underway.
- Vicki will forward Acciona's weekly 'lookahead' email to the CEC members.
- At the public meeting, the transporting of quarry material from Colac to the Sisters Quarry, stockpiling and then transporting it to the site was raised. Acciona confirmed that their contractor had arranged this due to a holdup with another quarry source over a two week period. Although approved routes were used, Acciona accepted that this practice was not in the spirit of the Secondary TMP process and it has now ceased. Acciona acknowledged that these issues should not have to be raised at public meetings, and that communication between proponent and contractors should not allow it occur.

Underground Transmission Line:

- Acciona has mailed out a newsletter about the transmission line and will hold an information session on Wednesday 29 May between 3.30pm and 6.30pm at the shopfront in Dunlop Street, Mortlake.

Neighbourhood Benefits Program:

- Acciona will 'relaunch' the program with a letter to residents, including renters, within 4km of the site. The letter will include Acciona's contact details. Property owners must have owned the residence since before 8 March to be eligible. Regarding whether a farm worker who may be living rent-free on a property would be eligible, Kirsten Lee is happy to discuss this with landholders and consider on a case-by-case basis.
- The Neighbourhood Benefit Program agreements will be of 10 years duration.

Offsite Landscaping Program:

- Acciona will provide the CEC a copy of the offsite landscaping letter and information pack that was sent out to eligible landholders, and place the information on the project website.
- Around 20 of the 100 offers have been accepted.
- Landholders have input into the design and species selection for the plantings. Acciona will liaise with Bruce Donaldson about offsite landscaping, following the CEC meeting

Communication:

- There are around 277 subscribers to Acciona's e-newsletters. This includes attendees from the public meeting. People can unsubscribe if they wish. Acciona will email a copy of the construction updates provided in the Warrnambool Standard to the subscribers.

9.2 Community Representatives

- Bruce noted that local businesses are booming from the wind farm construction activity.
- Acciona has not provided a direct response to every person who raised an issue at the public meeting. Several people approached Acciona after the meeting to ask questions on a one-to-one basis.
Acciona is continuing to have individual discussions with several neighbours regarding background noise monitoring.
- The range of issues Acciona took from the public meeting include:
 - Location of underground water infrastructure, referred to as the 'Keilambete Pipeline', near the transmission line corridor – Acciona has identified the location of this infrastructure and will address its avoidance in the detailed design of the transmission line.
 - Non-approved use of McRaes Road by quarry trucks – Acciona is enforcing the approved quarry haulage routes on an ongoing basis via its contractors.
 - Gate between property located on north side of Terang-Mortlake Road, at the intersection with Tapps Lane – Acciona and VicRoads are liaising with the landholder to address this issue.
 - The ability for overhead firefighting to take place above and around the wind farm site once operational:
It was agreed that this issue has never really been clearly and effectively addressed by the wind industry.
It was suggested that Acciona liaise with the CFA as a regulatory authority and CASA to put together information on this.
 - Acciona is considering how to clarify information about project decommissioning.

9.3 Council

- For Council to increase its understanding of how operational wind farms and overhead firefighting interact, Cr Smith proposed that Council receive a presentation from CASA and the CFA on this issue.

10. General Business

10.1 Neil Blain requested that Council publicise better the role and membership of the CEC and suggested a flyer be put together and distributed throughout the communities surrounding the wind farm site, including Noorat.

Peter Rooke noted that he acts as a conduit of information via the community groups he is actively involved in, and does not wish his phone number to be listed on a flyer. Vicki will draft a flyer and circulate it to the CEC for review.

Council will improve the accessibility on its website for CEC minutes.

The Committee agreed that in future, a PDF version of the draft CEC minutes can be placed onto Council's website, following a three-day Committee review and acceptance period. Each Committee member's approval must be received in writing by Council prior to uploading the draft minutes onto its website.

11. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 19 June 2019, 10.30 am

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.