

Minutes

Dundonnell Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee

Meeting date Monday 12 April 2021

Meeting time and location 6pm, at the Woorndoo FNC social rooms

1. Attendees

Cr Ian Smith
Cr Jim Doukas
Karen Blackmore, Community Representative
Greg Grant, Community Representative
Tim Hill, Community Representative
Mark Selvaratnam, Assistant Project Manager – Tilt Renewables
Cara Layton, Stakeholder and Environment Manager, Tilt Renewables (via phone)
Martine Holberton, Community and Stakeholder Advisor, Tilt Renewables

Vicki Askew-Thornton, Moyne Shire Council

2. Apologies

Cr Damian Gleeson
Dave Sweatman, Community Representative

3. Declarations of interest

Nil

4. Minutes of previous meeting

Moved by Karen Blackmore, seconded by Mark Selvaratnam that the minutes of the CEC meeting held on 18 January 2021 be accepted. **CARRIED**

5. Business Arising

- 5.1 TR will provide written clarification to the CEC about funding that was provided to the CFA in lieu of it not taking up the Dundonnell Mini Grid program offer:
Completed – refer to **Attachment 1**.
Tim Hill and TR noted there are ongoing discussions regarding this matter.
- 5.2 TR will provide the CEC with further information about where the blade was disposed of, and some general information about decommissioning, and technological advancements in turbine component disposal / recycling potential:
Completed – refer to **Attachment 1**.

6. Correspondence Incoming

- TR response to actions, via email on 4 February.

7. Correspondence Outgoing

Nil.

8. Reports

8.1 Tilt Renewables (TR)

Project Update (Please refer to slide presentation **Attachment 2**):

Summary of further discussion:

- The upcoming project newsletter will include an update on the company structure.
- The wind farm has generated 620 gigawatt hours in the past 12 months.
- Earth Resources Victoria (ERV) has done an inspection of the quarry site and is assisting TR to develop a re-seeding plan. Stock will be excluded from the area whilst it is rehabilitated. The Work Authority approval for the onsite quarry was issued by ERV and is separate to the wind farm permit. TR will consider placing a copy of the Work Authority on the project website.
- The fencing around the Brolga Compensation Plan (BCP) wetlands will be permanent. Greg and Tim noted that the type of fencing is important, and if it is ringlock, cyclone or similar, it will prevent chicks from roaming to feed on grubs. TR will discuss this with its BCP consultant Odonata and advise the CEC of the outcome.
THE BCP wetlands were selected following a statewide search for degraded wetlands.
- All project related vehicles are still required to use the approved site access routes that are set out in the Traffic Management Plan. Community representatives and Council noted there are still vehicles regularly accessing the site from the eastern side, via non-approved routes. TR will follow up on these reports and report back to the CEC, and consider making magnetic vehicle identification signs (such as those used for the Mortlake South Wind Farm) mandatory for all project vehicles going forward.
- Tim Hill noted the purpose of the creation of the nature reserve was to protect resident Peregrine Falcons and microbats, and asked if the reserve was required to be monitored as part of the BAMP. TR will check the locations of the bat monitors and report back to the CEC.
- Noise monitoring will commence soon. The approved Noise Compliance Testing Plan requires the second round of monitoring to occur 12 months after the first round. TR will follow up with its noise consultants regarding whether seasonal wind conditions are factored in when noise monitoring will be undertaken at the same time in both years.
- TR has no outstanding complaints regarding the project.

8.2 Community Representatives

- 8.2.1 Greg Grant noted that the Dundonnell CFA Brigade is one of the last community organisations left in the area. Dundonnell used to have many clubs such as cricket, shooting, gymkhana, badminton and a CWA branch. The proposal for TR to provide an annual contribution to the Brigade is very important and should have been raised and advocated for earlier in the project.

Tim Hill added that the Brigade has to do its own fundraising for replacement equipment, and the replacement tankers are second hand.

8.2.2 Tim raised a question from a member of the public about the extent of the impact on native vegetation from the construction of the internal tracks and cabling works.

TR noted it has fulfilled what was required by the approved plans. TR will follow this up and provide a response to the CEC, and will consider placing the relevant plan on the project website.

8.2.3 Greg Grant asked about Re-Alliance and its proposed community fund that was recently reported in the local press.

Councillors will discuss this further and respond to the CEC at the next meeting.

8.3 Council

TR will include information in the upcoming newsletter about the CEC.

9. General business

Nil.

10. Date of next CEC meeting

Monday 28 June 2021, 6pm – venue will be either the WFNC or the wind farm operations and maintenance building.

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

- Powering Australian Renewables (PowAR) and Mercury NZ have entered a Scheme Implementation Agreement to acquire Tilt Renewables Ltd
 - PowAR – a partnership between Queensland Investment Corporation (40%), the Future Fund (20%) and AGL Energy Ltd (20%)
 - Split of Australian and NZ assets (with NZ assets going to Mercury NZ, current TLT shareholder)
- What does this mean?
 - ✓ Will take several months for the transaction to be completed due to nature of process
 - ✓ PowAR will be building the business around the existing TLT team's expertise and experience
 - ✓ Continue doing what we are doing – well capitalised owners and strong commitment to the sector



What's Been Happening?

- Civil Balance of Plant Works – Complete
- Electrical Balance of Plant Works – Complete
- Turbine Component Deliveries – Complete
- Turbine Erection – Complete
- WTG Commissioning – Complete
- WTG Running – 80/80 (295MW)
- Site rehabilitation works ongoing, focus on re-seeding, batters & quarry rehab.

Next Steps

- Continue with Commissioning through Hold Point Testing to 336MW
- Close out site rehabilitation works

Performance

- Last 12 months (total generation): 620 GWh

- Working with Earth Resources department to ensure appropriate **rehabilitation of temporary on-site quarry**
- Implementation of the **Brolga Compensation Plan** is ongoing (which has included the selection and restoration of suitable Brolga breeding wetlands)
- Implementation of the **Bat and Avifauna Management Plan** (including monthly monitoring at the wind farm site)
- Worked closely with Moyne Shire offices regarding **traffic management** (including lessons learnt for future projects)
- **Post construction noise monitoring** to kick off over the next couple of months



- **Enquiries and complaints**

- 3 complaints received since January 2021
- No outstanding / open complaints
- Last quarterly complaints report delivered 24 February 2021
- Enquiries primarily about the community fund, wind farm visits, employment

- **Newsletter**

- February newsletter recently distributed
- Full page ads promoting the community fund placed in Mortlake Dispatch, Camperdown Chronicle, Derrinallum News and Natter, Skipton Community Newsletter, Mortlake Community Newsletter and Lake Bolac District Newsletter
- Community fund promotion material given to MSC for their channels

- **CEC Meetings have been held regularly (continued through COVID)**

- **Off-site landscaping program**

- Re-advertised in accordance with the Permit in December and February (current) newsletters

- **Future:**

- Community event – once operational and once safe / appropriate to do so
- Host landowner BBQ
- April newsletter – will soon move to quarterly

- DDWF Community Fund (\$50K annually)
 - Committee established (6 community members)
 - Fund is open for applications up-to \$25,000 until 31 March
 - Successful applications to be granted in April
 - So far there have been ~20 applications submitted
- Education Fund (\$15K annually)
 - Administered by the Committee
 - Criteria established
 - Applications open 1st September – 30 October
 - Successful applications to be granted in Nov/Dec



Other programs continue, including (represents over \$1M in funding):

- Dundonnell Mini-Grid – complete
- Federation Uni Sponsorship and Scholarships
- Lifeline Assist Training
- Women's Safe Housing

