

Coopers Gap Wind Farm Meeting Minutes

| Meeting title | Coopers Gap Community Consultative Committee (CCC). Meeting 45 | | |
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| Attendees | | | |
| Alice Sharp | | Michelle Davis | |
| Finlay Sharp | | Neil French | |
| Bruce Gooderham | | Barry Glode | |
| Russell Glode | | Lauren Glode | |
| Carmel Trebbin | | Carolyn Slone | |
| Phil Trebbin | | Ken Slone | |
| Cheryl Cosgrove | | Federica Frew, Tilt Renewables | |
| Mick Cosgrove | | Elizabeth Beavis, Tilt Renewables | |
| Carol Weekes, (Minute Secretary) | | Owen Boushel (Manager Stakeholder Engagement, Tilt Renewables) | |
| Keith Campbell, (Independent Chair) | | Cr Ros Heit, SBRC | |
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| Observers | | | |
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| Apologies | | | |
| Lidewij Keone-Sloss WDRC | | Nathan Brown, GE Vernova | |
| Location | Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North | Date & start time | 21November 2024 4.05pm |

| Topic | Discussion |
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| 1. Welcome | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keith Campbell, Chair, welcomed all attendees |
| 2. Previous Minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from the Community Consultative Meeting No 44 (CCC-44) held on 21st May 2024 were distributed prior to this meeting. Business raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Niagara Road traffic and signage issue: defer discussion until Cr Ros Heit arrived. As there was no further discussion regarding the Minutes, the Chair sought endorsement as a true and correct record of the meeting. Moved: Russell Glode Seconded: Owen Boushel <i>Minutes were unanimously accepted as a true and correct record.</i> |
| 3. Correspondence | Nil Inwards or Outwards Correspondence |
| 4. Project Update | Tilt Renewables: Liz Beavis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Niagara Road: several culverts restrict access by heavy loads unless temporary props are in place, these were removed when GE finished construction. Recently, the Wambo Wind Farm |

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| | <p>Powerline work required heavy loads delivered so the props were installed again. Liz advised that the community may have noticed more truck movement recently while GE took advantage of the temporary props.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •GE and Powerlink have agreed to funding the permanent upgrade of the culverts. The road will be closed during construction. Liz advised that the community will be informed prior to work commencing. •Acoustic Testing: Initial testing submitted and deemed to be compliant. Second testing started in mid-2024 but that data cannot be used as a major fault (caused by a fault in an underground cable) stopped 30 turbines (analysis of this data has not been completed yet). Testing a site that was not fully operational, may not represent normal noise levels, so this testing will be repeated in early 2025. Testing usually runs for 4 to 6 weeks. Noise levels for the site currently sits below the limit used for human health and comfort. •All noise complaints are followed up. After investigation by the team, a noise complaint may trigger the shutdown of a turbine, if the issue can't be resolved quickly. There are two ongoing complaints that Tilt Renewable is managing. •Curtailement of turbines has been due to negative pricing, that is, a mismatch between supply and demand. When there is an oversupply, the turbines are stopped, as the generation is not needed. This is an automated process based on 5-minute market prices. To overcome this issue, battery storage is being constructed by various companies near substations to store the excess supply until it is needed. |
| <p>5. Benefit Sharing</p> | <p>Community Enhancement Fund: Owen Boushel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owen expressed thanks to CCC members for their input re the community funding at the previous CCC meeting, and for links to contacts to spread the word about the Fund. • The funding is now allocated on an annual basis, and the applications are managed through the Bendigo Bank Community Enterprise Foundation. • 18 applications were received for this funding round • \$117,292 in grants allocated • Multiyear and longevity programs will be considered. • There was a good cross section of applications, and most were impressive. • Funds are fully expended for the year. It is proposed to open the 2025 funding round in July 2025. <p>A question from the floor: can the fund be increased? Wambo Wind Farm has a \$200,000 per annum community fund.</p> <p>Owen advised that presently Tilt Renewables contributes to community in ways additional to the Community Enhancement Fund.</p> |

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| | <p>Carolyn Slone, asked if the Wambo Wind Farm and Coopers Gap Wind Farm could combine resources to fund a large project.</p> <p>Further discussion included communication, collaboration but also emphasized the need for Tilt Renewables to create a legacy for the catchment area of the Coopers Gap Wind Farm.</p> <p><i>Motion: The CCC Funding Committee will discuss the concept of collaboration with Wambo Wind Farm for larger projects and report back to the CCC in due course.</i></p> <p>Moved: Russell Glode</p> <p>Seconded: Carmel Trebbin</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Other Projects:</p> <p>Tilt renewables aims to be a Good Neighbour to communities in their catchment areas. Owen provided the example of Broken Hill outages and the supply and installation of household generators to the Silverton community.</p> <p>Other benefit sharing initiatives for the Coopers Gap Wind Farm area included sponsorships for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bell Golf Club • Bell Art Exhibition Prizes • Bunya Bell Trail Ride <p>Telstra Tower</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tilt Renewables is committed to addressing this legacy issue and are presently in the process of finalising a commercial agreement with Telstra. • Telstra choose the site/ location for the Tower. • When the Agreement is signed, Tilt will request a timeline from Telstra. <p>Bell Big Blade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WDRC provided half of the funding required for the project. GE Vernona donated the blade, transport company Qube and WR Cranes covered the freight costs of transporting and unloaded the Blade at Bell. • The Bell Big Blade was launched with a successful local event on Saturday 16th November 2024. <p>Newsletter: The Newsletter will be distributed by the end of the year.</p> <p>A new Coopers Gap Wind Farm Fact Sheet has been developed and is available in hard copy or on the Tilt Website.</p> <p>Owen formally introduced Federica Frew, Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, Tilt Renewables. Federica assists to keep business on track as Owens manages 18 projects.</p> |

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| <p>6. Niagara Road Viewing Area</p> | <p>The Chair invited Cr Ros Heit to provide an update on this issue. Cr Heit advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2019 negotiations occurred with a landholder to provide a small land package for a viewing area. • The landholder then requested that the area should include toilets, picnic tables, and bins, so Council sought other options. • Signage as requested has since been installed but now covered due to the volume of traffic in the area. Many caravans were turning on to Bilboa Road but then unable to turn around due to lack of space. There has been concern about an accident or injury, so the need for a safe place to stop is important. <p>The community sought a viewing area, not a viewing “platform”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Heit advised that Council is considering a turnaround area where the road is wider and the turn around area could be achieved by grading to create the loop. • Tilt Renewables have agreed to provide the sign. • Council is waiting for Powerlink to clear their equipment from the area. • Signage will be important so that tourists stop only in the designated Viewing Area so as to not impede other cars and trucks that need to use the road. <p>Community feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the distance to the Viewing Area is included in the signage. • Would Council be willing to share the Plan for the Viewing Area with the CCC members for their information? |
| <p>7. Other Business</p> | <p>Sealing of the Jarail Road:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a school bus route (Jarail Creek School). • CCC members understood that AGL had paid for the road to be sealed, however this did not happen. <p>Owen advised that on the handover, AGL informed Tilt Renewables that all committed work had been completed.</p> <p><i>Motion: Owen will investigate the situation and advise Keith of the outcome of his search.</i></p> <p><i>If Owen finds that all AGL commitments in relation to this matter have been completed, then Keith will initiate contact with South Burnett and Western Downs Regional Councils.</i></p> <p>Moved: Mick Cosgrove</p> <p>Seconded: Bruce Gooderham</p> <p>Carried.</p> |

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| 8. Close and Next Meeting | <p>Keith acknowledged the high achievement levels across the 100 years of operation of the Cooranga North QCWA members. Keith particularly paid tribute to the four ladies who had offered fabulous service and commitment to their community in recent years. This was supported by the CCC with a round of acclamation.</p> <p>Owen also commended the QCWA who operated seamlessly behind the scenes for their catering and events.</p> <p>Keith also thanked Tilt Renewables staff and CCC members for the spirit in which they deal with the issues as they arise.</p> <p>Owen wished everyone a very Happy Christmas.</p> <p>Keith closed the meeting at 5.35pm.</p> <p>Next Meeting: 4pm 8th May 2025 (Arrival 3.30pm for afternoon tea)</p> |

Attachments:

1. Presentation provided by Owen Boushel, Tilt Renewables