

## FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

<b>Date and Venue</b>	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 Blayney Community Centre 6:00 – 7:00 pm
<b>Attendees:</b>	Mr Ian Rogan (Chair) Ms Rachael Young (Community member) Mr Joe Dalzell (Neighbour) Mr Andrew Muir (Blayney Shire Council) Mr Kim Masters (Host landowner) Ms Jenny Walsh (Proponent – Iberdrola Australia) Mr Dale Wiesner (Proponent – Iberdrola Australia) Mr. Joshua Fitzgerald (Iberdrola Australia)
<b>Apologies</b>	Mr Mark Dicker (Blayney Shire Council) Mr John Plantinga (Neighbour)

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by the Chair.

Ian Rogan (IR) welcomed members and noted new members.

Josh Fitzgerald, Operations and Maintenance Manager for the Flyers Creek Wind Farm introduced himself.

Gavin Paul, Landowner Liaison for the Flyers Creek Wind farm during construction also introduced himself.

Members of the committee introduced themselves to Josh and Gavin.

### 2. Apologies

John Plantinga  
Mark Dicker

### 3. Endorsement of the Agenda

The meeting agenda was endorsed. No additional items added.

#### **4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Kim Masters (KM) moved that the minutes from 24 January 2023 were formally adopted.

#### **5. Business Arising**

Actions were reviewed (see following page for updates and new actions).

Action 8: Mark Dicker emailed this information on 31 March 2023 noting the Blayney Shire Council website now includes a list of projects approved under the Financial Assistance Program - link located at the bottom of the web page:

<https://www.blayney.nsw.gov.au/our-community/grants-scholarships-and-awards/community-financial-assistance-program/community-financial-assistance-program>

Action 7: Josh Fitzgerald has been engaged as an Operations and Maintenance Manager for Flyers Creek.

Action 6: Iberdrola has engaged a Millthorpe-based company to take drone footage of the project, footage is yet to be taken.

Action 5: Jenny Walsh (JW) advised the date for commissioning the wind farm is estimated to be late 2023/early 2024.

Action 4: Andrew Muir (AM), Jenny Walsh (JW) and Kim Masters visited the potential viewing platform off Errowanbang Road on 27 March 2023. AM reported that Council does not currently own the potential viewing area site, due to the road relocation and required land acquisitions and transfers. Andrew will look into this further and also noted that the area would need safe access to be able to go ahead as a viewing platform.

Action 3: Iberdrola to provide a list of sponsorship to date since construction commenced. This action remains open, JW to action.

Action 2: JW advised the total cost of the wind farm project is roughly \$350 million.

Action 1: Mark Dicker (MD) Blayney Shire Council will seek clarification of funding splits for roadworks and respond to the Committee. MD provided information by email on 25 January 2023.

#### **6. Committee Issues and Updates [Chair]**

N/A

#### **7. Project Update**

Dale Wiessner (DW) provided an update on the progress of construction:

- 18 turbine foundations have now been poured.
- Components for 9 turbines have been delivered.
- There is a focus on getting Collector Group 3 turbines installed. A smaller crane is used to install the first two tower sections, then a larger main crane installs all other components.

- A number of Aboriginal unexpected finds have been discovered, particularly in the areas east of Errowanbang Road. The Development Approval for the project specifies coordinates for the 38 turbine locations which can be microsited up to 100m. Micrositing is used to avoid impacts to Aboriginal heritage finds where possible. Several turbines will be microsited.
- The project team is engaging well with the Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council and other Registered Aboriginal Parties regarding site surveys and finds.
- Turbine component deliveries are currently on hold.
- Gap Road intersection is now sealed.
- Errowanbang Road repairs are ongoing.
- The project remains significantly behind schedule, but is making progress. The volume of hard rock in the western side of the project requiring drilling and blasting is slowing construction down.
- The main earthmoving contractors on site are INCO and AOne.
- Substation works are progressing.
- The overhead high voltage power line is well progressed.
- There are issues with the underground section of the high voltage power line which is delayed.

## 8. Committee feedback from local community

KM noted:

- Tourists and unwanted visitors driving through site, one made it as far as Turbine 1 on his land.
- Asked about potential for signage on site.

Rachael Young (RY) suggested a sign saying 'This site is under surveillance'.

Discussions about funding from the Voluntary Planning Agreement

KM noted that Tallwood Hall received funding in a previous round, but costs had increased.

JW noted she would contact Darryl Wilson and Kerry Adams to encourage them to apply for the next round of funding.

RY raised the issue of the CCC's Terms of Reference. What is the purpose of the CCC if it cannot make decisions or recommendations? Really they are only getting project updates from Iberdrola. Should we expand Terms of Reference? Requested that Terms of Reference are recirculated.

**Action:** JW to recirculate CCC Terms of Reference

Discussion about the role of the Bodangora Wind Farm CCC's role in the distribution of Community Benefit Funds i.e. the Bodangora CCC are directly consulted by Dubbo Regional Council in the planning and management of funds.

IR – should Ian, on behalf of the CCC members be communicating to Blayney Council that the CCC would like to have more of a role in the distribution of funds?

Agreed that Ian should go ahead with proposal.

**Action:** IR to make contact with Blayney Shire Council to request that the Flyers Creek Wind Farm CCC be more involved or consulted regarding the distribution of the Community Benefit Fund/express CCC wishes for more community representation in the evaluation of submissions for funding.

**Action:** IR add CCC Terms of Reference as a standing item to CCC agenda and minutes.

RY requested that Iberdrola provide guidelines for local sponsorship (separate to the Community Benefit Fund). If there is no guideline, should Iberdrola consider one for the project?

**Action:** JW to check and advise whether Iberdrola has guidelines for local sponsorship for Flyers Creek.

## **9. Community Consultation Plan and processes**

JW - community consultation continuing as previously:

- Weekly community construction updates emailed to mailing list
- Monthly Project Newsletters emailed to mailing list and available on project website

Stakeholder Management Plan is currently being updated, then JW will circulate to the committee.

## **10. Any Other Business**

Joe Dalzell (JD) noted that the project has a large issue with non-payment of subcontractors. Joe has been approached by a number of local companies asking him to sue for payment.

Joe said there are local subcontractors who do not want a bar of Iberdrola, GLC or Tesmec due to overdue payments.

Iberdrola does not know what's going on as many of the local companies are not engaged directly by Iberdrola.

DW – discussed solutions to hold contractors to account and committed to following up ASAP.

JD – people are very upset, putting a large amount of strain on small companies and the situation is volatile. Some contractors have not been paid for six months.

IR - asked what action Iberdrola can take.

DW and JW noted that inquires would be made and subcontractors held to account. Iberdrola does not want its reputation tarnished.

The date for the next meeting is called for **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.45PM.

## Actions

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
1. Blayney Shire Council will seek clarification of funding splits for roadworks and respond to the Committee.	24/01/23	MD	Closed. MD provided information by email on 25 January 2023
2. Iberdrola to advise the cost of the wind farm project.	24/01/23	JW	Closed. JW advised during meeting on 17 April 2023
3. Iberdrola to provide a list of sponsorship to date since construction commenced.	24/01/23	JW	Open
4. Blayney Shire Council to investigate the possibility of a viewing platform for the project.	24/01/23	AM	Open
5. Iberdrola to advise date for commissioning wind farm	24/01/23	JW	Closed.
6. Iberdrola to advise whether drone footage could be taken for the project and added to the project website	24/01/23	JW	Open
7. Iberdrola to advise whether an operations Manager for Flyers Creek is being recruited.	24/01/23	JW/DW	Closed.
8. Council website be updated to include a list of all the projects funded to date with the funding amounts under the Financial Assistance Program.	11/10/22	MD	Closed.
9. Iberdrola to advise where concrete aggregate and sand is being sourced.	11/10/22	JW	Closed.
10. Senior Iberdrola representatives to consult with Kim Masters ASAP regarding his concerns.	5/7/22	JW	Closed.
11. Ross Earl (RE) – Council (and Iberdrola) will circulate a list of money available under the VPA and the split of VPA funds within.	5/7/22	RE/JW	Closed.
12. Iberdrola to clarify process and oversight for distribution of VPA funds via BSC and to check VPA wording re fund distribution	5/04/22	JW	Closed.
13. JW to check date of fist VPA contribution payment to BSC	5/04/22	JW	Closed.
14. CCC to ask Blayney Shire Council whether another member of staff can attend CCC meetings should the usual representatives not be available	5/04/22	JW	Closed.
15. Advise CCC of supplier open day details once confirmed	18/01/22	DW	Closed. JW issued email to all members 29/03/22 advising the supplier event Tuesday 5 April 4-6pm

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
16. IR to draft CCC Annual Report and circulate to the members for review and comment.	12/02/20	IR	Open.
17. MR to issue email to CCC members providing information on the local community engagement role.	10/11/21	MR	Closed. MR issued email to all members 10/11/21.
18. ALL members to complete the Declaration of Interest and Code of Conduct forms & return to IR.	12/02/20	ALL	Closed.
19. MR to send MD an email relating to biodiversity offset for Flyers Creek Wind Farm	19/05/21	MR	Closed. MR emailed MD 24/05/21
20. MR to arrange discussion re construction certificate(s) between Infigen and BSC.	19/05/21	MR	Closed. Meeting occurred by teleconference 21/05/21.
21. MR to notify aviation club of final wind turbine coordinates prior to construction	19/05/21	MR	Closed. Notification will occur via CASA.
22. MR to circulate sponsorship form to CCC members	03/02/21	MR	Closed. MR circulated by email
23. IR to circulate CCC Guidance (2019) to CCC members.	19/09/19	IR	Closed. IR circulated by email 12/02/20
24. IR to investigate further and advise if any major changes between guidance issued in 2016 and new guidance issued in 2019.	09/05/19	IR	Closed. IR provided a summary at meeting of 19/09/19 advising that there were no notable changes between the 2016 and 2019 guidance.
25. MR to review KM RFS sponsorship request and advise if Infigen can support	18/01/19	MR	Closed. MR provided sponsorship form to KM and requested that any requests for sponsorship are applied for via the form.
26. MR to contact the local aviation club with project information.	18/01/19	MR	Closed. JD noted on 03/02/21 that he has spoken with the local aviation club and that they are aware of the proposed wind farm and expect to be notified in due course by CASA of any new structures.
27. JD advised that he we would pass on the contact details of a local aviation club.	11/09/18	JD	Closed. Information duly emailed 12/09 to MR.

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
28. IR advised that he would contact MD to query if Council could nominate an alternate if MD was unable to attend CCC meetings and if there were particular days of the week that were preferable for future meetings.	16/05/18	IR	Closed. Daniel Drum (DD) at Blayney Shire Council appointed as MD's nominated alternative at 11/09/18 CCC meeting.
29. MR to provide copy of average wind speed map of the project site to the CCC members.	16/05/18	MR	Closed. MR provided a printed copy of the maps to the CCC members at meeting of 11/09/18.
30. MR to provide details of sponsorship activities related to Flyers Creek in the last 12 months.	16/05/18	MR	Closed. For details see agenda item 9 of CCC meeting minute 11/09/18.
31. MR agreed to bring an average wind speed map of the project site to the next CCC meeting for information	02/02/18	MR	Closed. MR brought maps to meeting of 16/05/18 and shared with members.
32. MR to issue Infigen Community Sponsorship application form to CCC members	02/02/18	MR	Closed. Issued with draft minutes on 08/02/18
33. MR to provide wirelines which were lodged with the DPE as part of planning modification 3 to JD.	02/02/18	MR	Closed. Issued by email to JD 08/02/18
34. MR to bring project maps in electronic form to next meeting to share with the group	02/02/18	MR	Closed. Maps brought to meeting of 16/05/18. It was agreed that MR would bring a copy to all subsequent meetings.
35. MR agreed to speak to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) about the process for adding a new CCC member to the group and report back on the outcome of this discussion.	02/02/18	MR	Closed. MR reported outcome of discussions with DPE at meeting of 16/05/18.
36. The CCC members supported this idea and requested that MD followed up with Council about the possibility of utilising this land for a viewing platform.	02/02/18	MD	Closed. MD followed up on this by email 12/02/18 advising that he has spoken to Councils Manager Operations and he has given very preliminary advice that the quarry area could be utilised as a "pull off area" and as a viewing area. Further detailed information would be required prior to any formal endorsement by Council.