

## FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023

<b>Date and Venue</b>	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 Blayney Community Centre 6:10 – 7:08 pm
<b>Attendees:</b>	Mr Ian Rogan (Chair) Mr John Plantinga (Neighbour) Mr Kim Masters (Host landowner) Mr Andrew Muir (Blayney Shire Council) Mr. Joshua Fitzgerald (Iberdrola Australia) Ms Jenny Walsh (Proponent – Iberdrola Australia)
<b>Apologies</b>	Ms Rachael Young (Community member) Mr Joe Dalzell (Neighbour) Mr Paul Gavin (Proponent – Iberdrola Australia) Mr Dale Wiessner (Proponent – Iberdrola Australia) Mr Mark Dicker (Blayney Shire Council)

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:10pm by the Chair.

Ian Rogan (IR) welcomed members and apologies.

#### 2. Apologies

Joe Dalzell  
Rachael Young  
Paul Gavin  
Dale Wiessner  
Mark Dicker

#### 3. Endorsement of the Agenda

The meeting agenda was endorsed. No additional items added.

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

The minutes from 17 July 2023 were formally adopted previous to the meeting, during August 2023.

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

Actions were reviewed (see attached page for list of actions to 17 July 2023, Action numbers refer to the numbering 16 October Meeting Agenda document).

Ian Rogan (IR) referred back to Action 3 from the Meeting Agenda (16 October meeting) regarding the CCC being more involved or consulted regarding the distribution of the Community Benefit Fund. Communications with Blayney Shire Council on this matter completed.

Kim Masters (KM) asked what the wind farm is contributing to the community via the Financial Assistance Program, noting there is an opportunity for the Council to show the source of funding.

Andrew Muir (AM) said that this information has already been made available and that it might be up to Iberdrola to promote the amount of funds made available via the Voluntary Planning Agreement.

Action 9: Blayney Shire Council to investigate the possibility of a viewing platform for the project. Remains open. AM – will take some months for Council to look into required land acquisitions and transfers.

Action 5: Advise whether Iberdrola has guidelines for local sponsorship for Flyers Creek. Remains open. Josh Fitzgerald (JF) to provide further information.

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

N/A

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

JF provided an update on the progress of construction:

- Site was energised at the end of July.
- 21 turbines have now been fully assembled at Flyers Creek – all 8 in Collector Group 3, all 11 in Collector Group 2-West and 2 in Collector Group 1-West.
- All turbine foundation pours have been completed in Collector Group 1-West, with seven remaining on the eastern side of Errowanbang Road.
- Five of the Collector Group 3 turbines are under commissioning, with three of those already commissioned.
- The current project hold point allows for the generation of up to 5MW of electricity to the grid, until the next hold point is reached.
- The next hold point requires 13 turbines to be commissioned – this will be the 8 turbines in Collector Group 3 and 3 turbines in Collector Group 2-West. The test for this hold point is planned for mid-November 2023.
- Some turbine components remaining to be delivered to Collector Group 1-West, then remaining deliveries will be via Gap and Halls Road.
- Bulk civil works are underway in the areas east of Errowanbang Road and turbine foundation pours are underway in this area.

- Works to Halls and Gap Road is continuing, more intensive along Halls Road.
- Iberdrola and GLC are working to keep neighbours informed of traffic interruptions as some are heavily impacted in this area.
- Cabling for the medium voltage line is underway along Errowanbang Road, which will require two creek crossings.
- Sealing of the northern section of Errowanbang (north of the Collector Group 3 site entry) will be carried out soon.
- Site rehabilitation is ongoing.

Community Benefit Funds provided from Iberdrola to Council to date:

Contribution period	Community Benefit	Road Maintenance	Council Administration	Total	Date paid
17 March 2022 to 30 June 2022	17,976.66	13,073.93	3,922.18	34,972.77	8/04/2022
Recalculation of above period	-	-	-	383.27	
1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022	31,952.72	23,238.34	6,971.50	62,162.56	5/07/2022
1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023	33,907.00	24,659.64	7,397.89	65,964.53	19/01/2023
1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023	33,907.00	24,659.64	7,397.89	65,964.53	19/07/2023
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>117,743.38</b>	<b>85,631.55</b>	<b>25,689.46</b>	<b>229,447.66</b>	

## 8. Committee feedback from local community

KM – asked what is the expected life of the wind farm.

JF & JW advised the expected life is 25-30 years.

KM – what is the end of life plan for the wind farm?

JF – most turbines can be pushed to operate for 40 years with substantial maintenance. End of life plan for other projects is to break the blades down and recycle them. Not sure of the exact plan for Flyers Creek as blade recycling is a new technology, but there will be a decommissioning plan. Foundations will stay in the ground.

KM – asked for this information to be included in a project newsletter.

## 9. Community Consultation Plan and processes

JW – advised that Iberdrola would be supporting:

- The Carcoar Show (28 October) sponsoring \$2,500, as well as an information stand at the show.
- Orange Rotary Sustainability Expo - information stand.
- CSIRO STEM event in Orange.

Millthorpe Garden Ramble was noted being held on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of November.

IR – the event is run by the Millthorpe Community Group.

JW – noted Iberdrola could potentially offer financial assistance.

## **10. CCC Terms of Reference**

IR circulated draft Terms of Reference for the Flyers Creek CCC using the NSW Government template. Asked members to comment.

Action: IR to email draft Terms of Reference to the group and ask all members to provide any comments within two weeks, with a view to adopting Terms of Reference at the next meeting.

## **11. Any Other Business**

JW – noted that this will be last meeting representing Iberdrola, Josh F will take over as operations staff.

IR – thanked Jenny for her contribution.

The date for the next meeting is called for **Monday 22 January 2024.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.08PM.

## Actions

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
1. Add table to minutes showing Community Benefit Funds provided from Iberdrola to Council to date.	17/07/23	JW	Closed.
2. Recirculate CCC Terms of Reference.	17/04/23	JW	Closed 17 April 2023. IR to draft CCC Terms of Reference
3. Make contact with Blayney Shire Council to request that 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.	17/04/23	IR	Closed
4. Add CCC Terms of Reference as a standing item to CCC agenda and minutes.	17/04/23	JW	Closed.
5. Advise whether Iberdrola has guidelines for local sponsorship for Flyers Creek.	17/04/23	JW	Open
6. 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
7. Iberdrola to advise the cost of the wind farm project.	24/01/23	JW	Closed. JW advised during meeting on 17 April 2023
8. Iberdrola to provide a list of sponsorship to date since construction commenced.	24/01/23	JW	Closed. JW circulated by email on 16 July 2023
9. Blayney Shire Council to investigate the possibility of a viewing platform for the project.	24/01/23	AM	Open
10. Iberdrola to advise date for commissioning wind farm	24/01/23	JW	Closed.
11. Iberdrola to advise whether drone footage could be taken for the project and added to the project website	24/01/23	JW	Closed.
12. Iberdrola to advise whether an operations Manager for Flyers Creek is being recruited.	24/01/23	JW/DW	Closed.
13. 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.
14. Iberdrola to advise where concrete aggregate and sand is being sourced.	11/10/22	JW	Closed.

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
15. Senior Iberdrola representatives to consult with Kim Masters ASAP regarding his concerns.	5/7/22	JW	Closed.
16. 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.
17. 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.
18. JW to check date of fist VPA contribution payment to BSC	5/04/22	JW	Closed.
19. 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.
20. 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
21. IR to draft CCC Annual Report and circulate to the members for review and comment.	12/02/20	IR	Open.
22. 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.
23. ALL members to complete the Declaration of Interest and Code of Conduct forms & return to IR.	12/02/20	ALL	Closed.
24. 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
25. MR to arrange discussion re construction certificate(s) between Infigen and BSC.	19/05/21	MR	Closed. Meeting occurred by teleconference 21/05/21.
26. MR to notify aviation club of final wind turbine coordinates prior to construction	19/05/21	MR	Closed. Notification will occur via CASA.
27. MR to circulate sponsorship form to CCC members	03/02/21	MR	Closed. MR circulated by email
28. IR to circulate CCC Guidance (2019) to CCC members.	19/09/19	IR	Closed. IR circulated by email 12/02/20

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
29. 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.
30. 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.
31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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.
36. 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.
37. MR to issue Infigen Community Sponsorship application form to CCC members	02/02/18	MR	Closed. Issued with draft minutes on 08/02/18
38. 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
39. 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.

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
40. 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.
41. 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.