

**FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM**  
**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE**  
**DRAFT Meeting Minutes 7 September 2015**

<b>Date and Venue</b>	September 7th, 2015 Blayney Community Centre from 6pm
<b>Attendees:</b>	Mr. Mark Dicker (Blayney Shire Council) Mr. Kim Masters (Host landowner) Ms. Rachael Young (Wind farm neighbour) Mr. John Plantinga (Wind farm neighbour) Mr. Jonathan Upson (Proponent–Infigen Energy) Mr. Ian Rogan (Chair)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order just after 6:00pm by the Chair.  
Grant Christopherson, NSW OEH, attended the meeting as an observer

### **Apologies**

Eddie Wilson. The Chair will contact Eddy to discuss whether he wishes to remain on the Committee.

### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the previous meeting held in July, 2015 were approved, and Jonathan stated they would be uploaded onto Infigen's Flyers Creek webpage.

### **Business Arising**

The Chair reminded committee members to nominate an alternate in case they cannot attend a meeting. The Chair asked if there are enough committee members. Kim stated more diversity on the committee would be a benefit, but until the project firms up, interest in the community is understandably low. It was agreed that observers would be listed in the minutes (unless the observer has an objection to this).

### **Renewable Energy Target and other Government Issues**

Jonathan discussed the Renewable Energy Target and how two wind farms have been committed to construction; however, these two wind farms benefited from the ACT's Feed-in Tariff auction. It was reported that there had been no apparent progress with regards to the Government's commitment to cross bench Senators concerning the wind farm commissioner and wind farm scientific committee.

Jonathan reported that there has not been any apparent progress so far for the NSW Government in trying to resolve the draft wind farm guidelines which were released almost 4 years ago.

### **Flyers Creek Status**

#### **Modifications**

Jonathan discussed the proposed modifications to the Flyers Creek project starting with Modification 2 which was submitted to the Department of Planning the previous month. Mod 2 proposes an alternate noise monitoring method for a nearby resident who did not give permission for further noise monitoring at their house and proposed deleting the transmission power line from the project as the route needs to be changed. The planning department released their recommendation report for this Modification recommending it be approved earlier in the day. Jonathan stated that the Planning Department would be expected to make a determination over the next week or two.

Jonathan introduced Modification 3 which primarily proposes to delete three landowners from the project who no longer want to take part in the wind farm project. In addition, a power line connecting the southern

half of the project will be re-routed along Errowanbang Road. A map of the revised modification was tabled. The modification would result in the Flyers Creek project having 5 fewer wind turbines leaving 37 approved wind turbine locations. The Chair asked how this affects the economics of the project and Jonathan responded that it was not a positive change, but that the economics of the project would not be significantly impacted. Jonathan also stated it was unlikely any of the 5 deleted turbines could be relocated. It was pointed out that deletion of the turbines will significantly reduce the visual impact of the wind turbines for residents east of the project.

Mark mentioned Infogen's presentation at a recent Blayney Shire Council meeting providing the Shire councilors with an update on the status of the project. Mark said the presentation was very much appreciated as the Councilors want to know what is coming up. There was considerable interest in the question of when the project will go ahead.

### **Other Updates**

Jonathan stated that if Modification 2 is approved, Infogen Energy considers that it has complied with all of the deferred conditions of consent.

Work is progressing on the grid connection studies which analyses how the wind farm will work as part of the National Electricity Grid after it is built. The purposes of these studies is to document that the wind farm will not have a detrimental impact on the grid and vice versa and to identify what ancillary equipment is needed in this regard.

### **Community Consultation Plan and Processes**

Jonathan had circulated a revised community consultation plan prior to the meeting. The committee was asked for further comment, and discussion occurred about how the plan was a 'living' document and would need to be updated from time to time. It was decided to adopt the current version of the Communications Plan (Kim moved; Rachael seconded).

Jonathan distributed a near final draft of the community newsletter to be distributed later in September. There were a few suggestions offered by the committee members including a discussion of the VPA. Jonathan mentioned again how distributing the newsletter by letter dropping was somewhat problematic. Mark said he would check again if the Shire's privacy policy would allow the Shire to provide Infogen with a mailing list for future newsletters. It was suggested that 20 copies of the newsletter be available at local POs (Blayney, Carcoar, Millthorpe and Mandurama) to broaden its distribution. Mark suggested that a community newsletter should be distributed before submission of major modification proposals to better inform the community about the proposed changes.

### **Voluntary Planning Agreement with Blayney Shire**

Mark stated that the VPA with some slight revisions was discussed and accepted by the Shire Council at a recent council meeting. A signed copy of the VPA has been sent to Infogen for their signature. The Shire mayor was interviewed on local radio about the VPA. The administration of the funds from the VPA was discussed again, and this should be revisited by the CCC when the project is nearer to starting construction.

### **Community Enhancement Fund**

There was a brief discussion of this fund which would involve additional contributions from Infogen Energy. Grant stated that some CCCs are directly responsible for deciding which groups and projects are funded while other CCCs choose not to be involved. It was agreed that this topic should be postponed until the project moves closer to construction.

## **Other Business**

None

## **Future meetings**

- The next CCC meetings were scheduled for 6pm on November 30<sup>th</sup> [Note: this has been changed to November 25<sup>th</sup>]

The CCC Meeting was closed by the Chair at about 7:45pm

## **Agreed Decisions / Resolutions from Previous Meetings**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Proposed Resolution(s)</b>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each Committee member to nominate an alternate should they not be able to attend a CCC meeting</li> <li>• <b>In progress</b></li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions by Chair and Jonathan to seek new members of CCC</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jonathan and Rachael to draft communications/consultation plan</li> </ul> <p><b>Plan Adopted</b></p>
4	
5	

## **Key Issues**

<b>#</b>	<b>Proposed Resolution(s)</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	Infigen to continue writing and distributing newsletters to the community	Jonathan		Newsletter to be circulated before the next meeting
2	CCC discuss and formulate a community consultation plan should the FCWF project be approved	All		Draft written and being reviewed
3	Blayney Shire to contact other Councils with regards to 'lessons learned' from their wind farm construction and operation	Mark		
4	Decision making process for VPA funds needs further discussion with regards to local expenditure of funds	All	After VPA executed and project proceeds toward construction	Ongoing
5				
6				