

**MINUTES OF THE BOCO ROCK WIND FARM
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Wednesday 13 December 2023
Nimmitabel Community Centre**

Attendees

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
Vickie Pollard (VP)	Nimmitabel Advancement Group representative
Howard Charles (HC)	Community Representative
David Laing (DL)	Site Manager – Squadron Energy
John Harrington (JH)	Community Representative
Fiona Taylor (FT)	Community Representative

Apologies

Jessica Petersen – Development Manager, Squadron Energy
 Bill Garnock – Host Landholder
 Maryanne Renfrey – CWA’s Representative (Nimmitabel Branch)
 Matthew Flower, Snr Project Manager

Absent

Representative - Snowy Monaro Regional Council

Item	Action																					
1.0 Welcome and Introductions <i>Meeting opened at 9.13am.</i>																						
2.0 Apologies – As listed above.																						
3.0 Declarations of Interest LA declared that she was an Independent Chair, approved by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) and engaged by Squadron Energy to chair the CCC meeting.																						
4.0 Business arising The minutes of 27 th February 2023 meeting were finalised and sent to CCC members on 15 th March 2023. Action items from the previous minutes were: <table border="1" data-bbox="204 1691 1070 2047"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>Issue</th> <th>Action By</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Keep CCC informed of Community Enhancement Fund outcomes.</td> <td>DL – Ongoing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Send Governance Forms to MF for completion and return</td> <td>LA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Change Google Maps “pin”</td> <td>JP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Provide updated template for CWP logo.</td> <td>DL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Write to SMRC requesting review of the CEF Charter to include “intent” of development consent condition.</td> <td>LA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Provide CCC with a link to the Bango Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund Charter.</td> <td>LA/JP</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item	Issue	Action By	1	Keep CCC informed of Community Enhancement Fund outcomes.	DL – Ongoing	2	Send Governance Forms to MF for completion and return	LA	3	Change Google Maps “pin”	JP	4	Provide updated template for CWP logo.	DL	5	Write to SMRC requesting review of the CEF Charter to include “intent” of development consent condition.	LA	6	Provide CCC with a link to the Bango Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund Charter.	LA/JP	1. See 6.0 Update 2. Complete. 3. Complete 4. Complete 5. See 6.0 Update 6. Complete.
Item	Issue	Action By																				
1	Keep CCC informed of Community Enhancement Fund outcomes.	DL – Ongoing																				
2	Send Governance Forms to MF for completion and return	LA																				
3	Change Google Maps “pin”	JP																				
4	Provide updated template for CWP logo.	DL																				
5	Write to SMRC requesting review of the CEF Charter to include “intent” of development consent condition.	LA																				
6	Provide CCC with a link to the Bango Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund Charter.	LA/JP																				

<p>5.0 Correspondence Report (emailed 6/11/23):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2/3/23 – Email from MF with completed governance forms. • 2/3/23 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review. • 10/3/23 – Email to CCC members with the finalised minutes and advice regarding Action Item 5. • 15/8/23 - Email to CCC members proposing to postpone Q3 meeting to Q4. Responses received. • 21/8/23 – Email to CCC members thanking for responses and confirming that CCC pushed to Q4 of 2023. • 6/11/23 – Email to CCC with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for this meeting. • 8/12/23 – Email to members with the reminder for this meeting. 	
<p>6.0 Reports/Updates Community Enhancement Fund</p> <p>DL advised that the Boco Rock Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund Charter has been reviewed and updated to reflect the new conditions of consent outlined in the Stage 2 project approval – important wording = “residual amenity of the project”. What was previously concentrated on Cooma/Monaro and Bombala LGAs, is now the new Snowy River region, therefore giving communities previously ineligible, such as Dalgetty, an opportunity to apply for funding.</p> <p>VP commented that there is a new CEF committee appointed every 2 years, so it is important that incoming members are informed about the Charter and the intent of the condition.</p> <p>FT supported the residual amenity condition, commenting it was a much cleaner outcome.</p> <p>DL advised that there are now 6 community representatives on the committee from the SMRC LGA, as opposed to the previous (2 x Cooma and 2 x Bombala).</p> <p>HC pointed out that the communities most impacted were not receiving the most economic benefit.</p> <p>DL advised that there was a push at the last meeting to fund Nimmitabel projects.</p> <p>VP advised that there is a new CEO at SMRC, David Hogan (ex Snowy Hydro).</p> <p>DL advised that some projects have been carried over. There is an issue with the continuity of staff. It is preferred to fund projects in their entirety, ie - in one go, as costs increase over time with the staging of projects.</p> <p>Link to Bango Wind Farm Community Enhancement Fund: Bango Wind Farm Enhancement Fund - Hilltops Council (nsw.gov.au)</p> <p>Project Update</p> <p>DL advised that a delegation from EGCO parent company EGAT visited site in December 2023. The group consisted of government officials.</p>	

Servicing of the turbines continues to be undertaken by GE, with 6 weeks of major works being completed. 4 gear boxes and 2 main shafts needed to be changed out.

The third party environmental audit (IEA) was conducted and submitted to the Department of Planning in September, as well as the Biodiversity Conservation Trust, Environmental Protection Authority, etc. There were no non-compliances, however, there were some recommendations in relation to bushfire management. It should be noted that BRWF already consult with RFS through its emergency response plans. There is a strong push in the Squadron Energy group regarding safety of staff; ie fires are to be fought by the professionals and not staff.

JH enquired whether there was much love grass on BRWF land. DL responded that there are a couple of sites in the middle of the east cluster. JH commented that it burns 3 times as hot, and quicker than normal grass.

DL advised that civil works have been undertaken on roads in the southern and western clusters. Works will be undertaken in the norther cluster next year.

DL advised that there has been no safety issues on site and no complaints received.

Stage 2

FT enquired about Stage 2. DL responded that it is still sitting with the Commercial Team, who are investigating options. EGCO own the facility/infrastructure for Stage 1 (transmission and substation). Squadron have the development rights for Stage 2, however, as Stage 1 own the infrastructure, it is complicated due to compensation, etc.

FT asked if the proposed Renewable Energy Zone would make a difference. DL said that he wasn't sure – they need to put energy into the transmission to get it into the grid as soon as possible to keep prices down with the closing of coal fired stations.

HC asked if there was still capacity to take the energy. DL responded that it is just big enough to accept.

Keep CCC updated on Stage 2 progress.

7.0 General Business

VP commented that hopefully the CEF scenario is finally sorted out.

FT congratulated the works being carried out on the Lake Williams footpath and gazebo floor.

HC commented that people are fishing in the lake and catching "tagged" trout.

JH commented that Lions are hoping to get seats around the lake.

VP said that NAG are also hoping to receive funding for a playground.

8.0 Meeting Schedule for 2024

LA to schedule meeting in 2024. Any updates regarding Stage 2 will be emailed to members.

Agreed.

Meeting closed 10.10am with LA thanking all for their attendance & contribution throughout 2023, wishing all a happy festive season.

Action Items:

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Keep CCC informed of CEF outcomes	DL – Ongoing
2	Keep CCC updated on progress of Stage 2	JP/DL
3	Schedule next CCC	LA/DL/JP