

FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes Tuesday 17th July 2023

Date and Venue	Monday 17 th July 2023 Blayney Community Centre 6:00 – 7:20 pm
Attendees:	Mr Ian Rogan (Chair) Ms Rachael Young (Community member) Mr John Plantinga (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 Paul Gavin (Proponent – Iberdrola Australia)
Apologies	Mr Mark Dicker (Blayney Shire Council) Mr Joe Dalzell (Neighbour) Mr. Joshua Fitzgerald (Iberdrola Australia)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by the Chair.

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

2. Apologies

Joe Dalzell
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 April 2023 were formally adopted.

Jenny Walsh (JW) referred to the Department of Planning and Environment's *Community consultative committee guidelines, State significant projects* (June 2023). The guideline Terms of Reference template suggest that the chairperson will distribute draft minutes to all committee members and that two weeks after the meeting is the maximum period for distribution.

The Committee agreed to circulate the draft minutes for comment and finalise the minutes within one month of the meeting. If there is no feedback from Committee members it will be assumed that the minutes are adopted and added to the Flyers Creek website.

5. Business Arising

Actions were reviewed (see attached page for list of actions to 17 April 2023).

Action 8: Andrew Muir (AM), Jenny Walsh (JW) and Kim Masters visited the potential viewing platform off Errowanbang Road on 27 March 2023. Action remains open as Council looks into required land acquisitions and transfers.

Action 7: Iberdrola to provide a list of sponsorship to date since construction commenced. JW emailed information on 16 July 2023. Action closed.

Action 4: Advise whether Iberdrola has guidelines for local sponsorship for Flyers Creek. JW advised that Iberdrola does not have specific guidelines for sponsorship for Flyers Creek (in addition to the Community Benefit Fund monies which are distributed by Blayney Shire Council's Financial Assistance Program). Action remains open.

Action 3: Add CCC Terms of Reference as a standing item to CCC agenda and minutes. Closed.

Action 2: 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.

Ian Rogan (IR) emailed Mark Dicker (MD) on 20 June 2023 to request information. MD responded by email on 14 July 2023 noting:

- Blayney Shire Council's Community Financial Assistance Program is currently funded from:
 - \$45,000/year from Flyers Creek VPA; and
 - \$100,000/year from Special Rate Variation funds from Newcrest
- It is one process
- Cannot see Council seeking greater input from the CCC in regrading distribution of Flyers Creek VPA funds - already providing a large part of the funds back to the community (which Council does not have to do, they could use all funds for Council-related programs)
- If members of the Flyers Creek Wind Farm CCC would like further input, they could consider nominating for the community positions on the FAP next time the EOI is run (after September 2024)

JW noted that the Community Benefit Fund for Flyers Creek Wind Farm is \$55,000 per year. In 2022 Blayney Shire Council amended their Community Financial Assistance Policy with regard to the distribution of the Flyers Creek Wind Farm VPA, which resolved that:

- A fixed amount of \$45,000 of the: \$55,000 per annum (with indexation) Community Benefit Fund will be allocated to the Financial Assistance Program initially for 3 years.
- The \$10,000 balance (which will increase each year with indexation) will fall into Council's general budget.

The total contribution from the Flyers Creek Wind Farm Voluntary Planning Agreement is \$107,000 per annum, plus CPI, for the first 25 years of the project, broken down as follows:

- Community Benefit Fund: \$55,000/year
- Road maintenance: \$40,000/year
- Project related Council administration and observations \$12,000/year

JW noted that Council is receiving \$12,000/year for administration costs from the VAP, plus \$10,000/year general budget from the Community Benefit Fund (for three years).

KM asked whether there are community members on the FAP Committee.

Andrew Muir (AM) advised there are four to five community members.

KM noted that many people are unaware that monies are available and asked that Blayney Shire Council advertise this.

AM – understands that communications have gone out about the FAP.

Rachael Young (RY) asked that Council communications please be clearer about promoting the monies available and also the funds which have been awarded.

Action: JW to add table to minutes showing funds provided from Iberdrola to Council to date.

Action 1: Recirculate CCC Terms of Reference. See section 10.

Kim Masters (KM) had noted at April meeting there were unwanted visitors driving through site. KM advised signage on site and lockable gates have solved this issue.

Joe Dalzell (JD) noted in April that some contractors payments were very overdue.

Dale Wiessner (DW) provided an update that Iberdrola and GLC had looked into this and understood this issue had been resolved.

JW to phone JD to ask whether he is still hearing of concerns.

6. Committee Issues and Updates [Chair]

N/A

7. Project Update

DW and Gavin Paul (GP) provided an update on the progress of construction:

- All 8 turbines in Collector Group 3 have been installed
- The first turbine in Collector Group 2-West has been installed and blades are currently going up on the second.
- The bulk of turbine foundations have been completed in Collector Group 2-West.
- We have broken ground on all site entrances east of Errowanbang Road and two turbine foundations have been poured.
- Components for 7 turbines have been delivered to Collector Group 2-West (11 turbines in total in this collector group). Turbine deliveries recommenced today.
- We have made great progress re cultural heritage finds in the area east of Errowanbang Road – 4 turbines have been microsited to avoid impacts.
- Maintenance work is underway on Gap Road and Halls Road works are also underway.
- There have been some significant health & safety issues, equipment rollovers, etc, including an 80t crane rolling on its side on Gap Road, several incidents required stop works.
- Errowanbang Road repairs are ongoing, we meet fortnightly with Council to agree repairs.
- No change to primary contractors – INCO's work is increasing, AOne's work is decreasing.
- Switching station is now commissioned and energised.
- High voltage transmission line and substation to be commissioned next week.
- There are four locations where Essential Energy assets will need to be undergrounded.
- BSC Councillors visiting the site on 7 August.
- About a month until the 8 Collector Group 3 turbines are commissioned.

8. Committee feedback from local community

RY noted – very exciting to see turbines when driving past site.

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 – JW to update Iberdrola address and recirculate to the committee.

10. CCC Terms of Reference

JW advised that there appear to be no specific Terms of Reference for the Flyers Creek CCC, however the 2014 report on the CCC notes that Infigen Energy established the CCC in line with the structure outlined in the NSW Government's *draft NSW Planning Guidelines Wind Farms – A resource for communities, applicants and consent authorities*.

The Conditions of Consent for Flyers Creek make reference to a CCC operating from the commencement of construction in accordance with the Community Consultative Committee

Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2016), or its latest version. The guideline has been recently updated:

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-02/community-consultative-committee-guideline.pdf>

Section 4.1 of the guideline refers to Terms of Reference template for committees:

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-06/terms-of-reference-form.pdf>

IR – as there are no Terms of Reference for the Flyers Creek CCC, IR will draft with input from committee members, based on the Terms of Reference template.

11. Any Other Business

KM – noted that road remediation work has commenced from Forest Reefs down to the Collector Group 3 site entry. There will be major upgrades later this year which will be disruptive.

KM noted that culvert replacements and pavement upgrades here will put more traffic onto Cadia and Gap Roads and that Iberdrola needs to take note as turbines could be delivered at the same time.

The date for the next meeting is called for **Monday 16th October 2023.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.40PM.

Actions

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
1. Recirculate CCC Terms of Reference.	17/04/23	JW	Closed 17 April 2023. IR to draft CCC Terms of Reference
2. 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
3. Add CCC Terms of Reference as a standing item to CCC agenda and minutes.	17/04/23	JW	Closed.
4. Advise whether Iberdrola has guidelines for local sponsorship for Flyers Creek.	17/04/23	JW	Open
5. 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
6. Iberdrola to advise the cost of the wind farm project.	24/01/23	JW	Closed. JW advised during meeting on 17 April 2023
7. 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
8. Blayney Shire Council to investigate the possibility of a viewing platform for the project.	24/01/23	AM	Open
9. Iberdrola to advise date for commissioning wind farm	24/01/23	JW	Closed.
10. Iberdrola to advise whether drone footage could be taken for the project and added to the project website	24/01/23	JW	Closed.
11. Iberdrola to advise whether an operations Manager for Flyers Creek is being recruited.	24/01/23	JW/DW	Closed.
12. 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.
13. Iberdrola to advise where concrete aggregate and sand is being sourced.	11/10/22	JW	Closed.
14. Senior Iberdrola representatives to consult with Kim Masters ASAP regarding his concerns.	5/7/22	JW	Closed.

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

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

Action	Date Raised	Responsibility	Status
40. 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.