

## Hawkesdale Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee

Meeting date Monday 17 May 2021  
Meeting time and location 7pm at the Hawkesdale CFA Headquarters

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Cr Gleeson welcomed Camino Cabanillas to the CEC. Camino is the Construction Manager for the Hawkesdale and Ryan Corner Wind Farms.

### 2. Present

Cr Damian Gleeson (Chair)  
Cr James Purcell  
Anne-Maree Huglin, HADDAC Community Representative  
Maxine Keane, Community Representative  
John Bos, Community Representative  
Liana Blake, Community Representative  
George Swarbrick, Community Representative  
Camino Cabanillas, GPG  
Guillermo Alonso Castro, GPG  
Debra Dumesny, GPG  
Nathan Micallef, GPG  
Bruce Mirtschin, (guest - member of the community)

Vicki Askew-Thornton, CEC Responsible Officer, Moyne Shire

### 3. Apologies

Nil.

### 4. Declarations of Interest

Nil.

### 5. Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

Moved by John Bos, seconded by Anne-Maree Huglin that the minutes of the CEC meeting held on 19 April 2021 be accepted. **CARRIED**

### 6. Business arising from previous Minutes

- 6.1 *GPG will update the wind farm map tabled at the April meeting to include the transmission line route.*  
Response: GPG is awaiting information from Ausnet in order for the map to be updated. Once the map is ready it will be distributed to the CEC members.

- 6.2** *GPG took on notice the request for it to publicly apologise for the wording used in relation to local people who visit the GPG office in Hawkesdale. GPG has apologised to the individual and the CEC.*
- 6.3** *GPG will email the CEC members a link to the Flora and Fauna report that has been approved by the Minister for Planning, with guidance on which section/s of the report relate to the methodology used for the avifauna surveys. (Completed)*  
GPG noted that the avifauna survey was undertaken in accordance with relevant DELWP guidelines.
- 6.4** *Maxine Keane will email a list of questions about the transmission network to Council before the next meeting.*  
Received - held over to General Business.
- 6.5** *Council will provide further information regarding the network capacity and the State Government's South West Renewable Energy Zone Plan, which has been provided to other CECs.*  
Refer to section 10.1 (2).
- 6.6** *Council will respond to the following question regarding the background noise monitoring that is currently being done: Are the locations of the loggers the same as those used by Marshall Day, and if not, why?*  
At its December 2020 meeting, Council resolved to:  
'Conduct independent noise testing by an independent acoustician at a number of noise sensitive properties surrounding the proposed Hawkesdale Wind Farm so that the community can verify the modelling which Marshall Day Acoustics has conducted for the proponent', and that 'Council release to the public upon request, all the raw wind speed and raw noise data from Council's independent noise testing at Hawkesdale, when it receives the final report on this testing'.  
The scope of the monitoring is based on the Council resolutions.  
The monitoring report will include reference to the positioning of the noise logging equipment.

## 8. Correspondence Incoming

28 April – Email from John Bos asking that the allegation from GPG that a community representative recorded the first two CEC meetings is addressed at the May CEC meeting.

Response from the Chair: Cr Gleeson is satisfied this has been addressed.

29 April and 3 May – Emails from John Bos (including document link) regarding decommissioning, and GPG's comment at the April CEC meeting on who would cover costs of decommissioning in the event that the permit holder was unable to pay or be pursued.

GPG response: As the permit holder, GPG is responsible for decommissioning. Council is the responsible authority for compliance and enforcement of the Permit.

10 May – Emails from GPG to the CEC members with a link to the Flora and Fauna report that has been approved by the Minister for Planning, and some guidance on which section/s of the report relate to the methodology used for the avifauna surveys.

29 April – From GPG with a link to the April H and RC wind farms newsletter – emailed to the CEC members.

## 8. Correspondence Outgoing

Nil.

## 9. Reports:

### 9.1 Global Power Generation (GPG):

- GPG is continuing to liaise with landholders to update its maps.
- GPG agreed to put hard copies of the project newsletters at the Hawkesdale Post Office.

### 9.2 Community Members:

- Will the turbines have diesel pilot motors?  
GPG response: No.
- Has/will GPG contact the Hawkesdale P-12 College regarding concerns the College may have about whether the wind farm will have an impact on students with special needs?  
GPG took this question on notice.

### 9.3 Council:

- Council will soon be undertaking a review of its CEC model. All CEC members will be given the opportunity to have input.

## 10. General business

### 10.1

Questions from Maxine Keane:

1. *Are GPG going to store power at the Tarrone (terminal station) site?*

GPG response: At this stage, GPG has no plans to install batteries at the Tarrone terminal station site.

2. *What happens if the 500kV transmission line can't take the input of all the new power from the new wind farm projects happening in the area?*

Council response: The Australian Energy Market (AEMO) Operator is best placed to answer questions regarding the existing transmission infrastructure. However, Council understands that the issue is not with the capacity of the 500kV line, but rather moderating the balance/stability of the network as new generators (such as wind farms, solar farms, gas fired power generators and so on) join it.

AEMO has released an Integrated System Plan (ISP) that outlines high priority transmission projects for eastern and south eastern Australia. The 2020 ISP does not propose a second 500 kV transmission line adjacent to the present line.

The Victorian government recently released a draft Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) Development Plan for comment. Moyne Shire forms a part of the South West Victoria REZ. The Development Plan outlines possible future transmission projects for the REZ, including minor substation upgrades, high voltage power lines, large scale batteries and synchronised condensers. This draft plan does not propose a second 500kV line adjacent to the present one, however it does put forward options for future 500 kV transmission lines in other areas of the region. Council made a submission on the REZ Development Plan.

3. *What happens when the wind doesn't blow?*

GPG response (as agreed at the meeting, detailed information was provided after the meeting to inform this response):

When the wind doesn't blow, the wind turbine generators are unable to generate electricity. Electrically speaking, the turbines would still be energised and connected to the grid, ready for when the wind picks up again over a minimum threshold value (called 'cut-in wind speed', around 3 metres per second), and commence generating again.

The eastern seaboard of Australia is part of an interconnected electricity network composed of a mesh of transmission lines (including interstate interconnectors) and substations which link the generation centres with the demand centres. Therefore, if there's no wind in a particular region and the wind farms in that area are not generating, the demand in that area will be met by generation coming from other areas (other wind farms, solar farms, coal, gas or hydro) via the power lines and substations that integrate the transmission and distribution grids.

4. *Have GPG have a Fire Plan Document? CFA Group Officer for Hawkesdale has not been consulted.*

GPG response: GPG is updating its fire response plan, which will form part of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). This requires consultation with the CFA at a regional level.

GPG will also consult with the Hawkesdale CFA Group Officer as part of this process.

5. *Have GPG a Bio Security plan for vehicles coming and going from properties?*

GPG response: Biosecurity will be addressed in the EMP. The contracts between GPG and its construction contractors also include biosecurity measures.

6. *Is the land the Wind Farm are operating on zoned farming or industrial or both?*

Council response: Farming zone.

7. *Question for councillors: Have our land and homes been devalued already because of the proximity of wind towers?*

Council response: Valuations are sales based. There is no sales evidence indicating devaluation associated with proximity to this wind farm site. Council is unaware of any local cases of a property's proximity to wind farms translating to a lower sale price/valuation.

**10.2** There is no intention for Re-Alliance to be invited to attend a CEC meeting.

**Next meeting – Date to be confirmed.**

Confirmed this ..... / ..... / .....

Chair .....

**Minutes are to be registered in Moyne Shire's electronic document management system by the committee reporting officer immediately following the Minutes' confirmation and signing**

CONFIRMED