

**FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM**  
**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes 11 November 2014**

<b>Date and Venue</b>	November 11th 2014 Blayney Shire Office from 6-8pm
<b>Attendees:</b>	Mr. Mark Dicker (Blayney Shire Council) Mr. Kim Masters (Host landowner) Ms. Rachael Young (Wind farm neighbour) Mr. Jonathan Upson (Proponent–Infigen Energy) Mr. Grahame Collier (Chair)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order just after 6:00pm by the Chair. There were no observers attending the meeting.

### **Apologies**

Eddie Wilson

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

The minutes from the previous meeting held on July 14<sup>th</sup> 2014 were approved, and Jonathan stated they would be uploaded onto Infigen's Flyers Creek webpage.

### **Business Arising**

- **Membership of the Committee**

It was discussed again that it would be beneficial to have additional community members join the committee. The Chair said he would follow up with one of the observers from the July meeting. Jonathan stated he would try to contact the teacher at the Errowanbang school again to see if they would like to participate.

It was agreed that the Chair would contact the Blayney Chronicle 1-2 weeks prior to the next meeting to try and get a story written about the CCC and encourage observers to attend (and then potentially join the Committee).

- **CCC Terms of Reference**

The Chair had previously circulated a draft of the CCC's Terms of Reference and received some comments from the Committee which have been incorporated. A short discussion of the Terms of Reference occurred after which a motion was passed by the Committee to accept the current version. It is envisioned that these Terms of Reference would be updated from time to time as the Committee saw fit.

### **Overview of Current Status of the Project**

- **Overview of the RET Status**

Jonathan discussed how the Warburton Review released their report in August which found that the RET was successfully meeting its two primary objectives of increasing renewable energy generation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Further, modelling undertaken for the Review found that reducing the RET would result in more pollution (and costs for Direct Action), less investment and jobs in regional areas, and no significant impact on electricity prices (in fact, electricity prices would rise in the medium-long term). Despite this, the recommendations by the Warburton Panel were to either end, or severely curtail, the

LRET scheme. The Government has distanced itself from the recommendations and is seeking to negotiate a compromise with the ALP.

- **Current Status of the Project**

Jonathan reported that progress is continuing with respect to some of the conditions of consent and additional issues. While steady state grid connection studies were completed some time ago, dynamic studies are underway. The objective of such studies is to ensure the wind farm will not have detrimental impacts on the electricity network and vice versa. In addition, background noise monitoring was occurring at a neighbouring residence work and a spring flora and fauna survey of the revised transmission route has occurred. A heritage study of the revised transmission line route will occur in early 2015.

There was also a short discussion of the status of the draft wind farm guidelines which were released almost 3 years ago. There appears to be little progress within the State Government in this regard.

### **Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA)**

Jonathan supplied Blayney Shire Council with some proposed changes to the VPA after further review from their legal department. The suggested changes did not involve any revision to the amounts of the financial contributions in the agreement. Mark indicated that the Shire would review the proposed changes. He also indicated that they might be put on public display again prior to them being finalised.

Kim raised the issue, which was also raised at the previous meeting, that the community funding provided by the wind farm needed to be spent in the local area---around the wind farm project. It was agreed that this issue would be revisited after the VPA was finalised and the project was proceeding to construction.

### **Communication Plan**

Just prior to the meeting, Jonathan circulated a draft community consultation and communications plan for the wind farm project. The committee members who had read the plan were generally supportive. Jonathan stated that he would be pleased to receive suggestions and comments in the weeks following the meeting. Rachael suggested that the Western Advocate be added to the media list as copies are distributed with the Blayney Chronicle each week.

### **Update on Community Consultation Actions**

It was suggested that the community newsletter could be written and distributed more often. Jonathan stated that one of the limiting factors is that someone has to be contracted to deliver the newsletter as the Shire is not in a position to supply a mailing list of local residents. It was suggested that mailing lists of addresses can be purchased from the NSW LPI. It was also suggested that copies of the newsletters could also be provided to the local Post Offices (Millthorpe, Carcoar, and Blayney) as well as the Mandurama Newsagency.

### **Other Business**

None

### **Future meetings**

- The next CCC meetings were tentatively scheduled for 6pm on February 17<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup>. Mark indicated he would make a reservation for the Community Hall for these evenings.

The CCC Meeting was closed by the Chair at about 7:25pm

## Agreed Decisions / Resolutions from Previous Meetings

Agenda Item	Proposed Resolution(s)
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>CCC discuss the community enhancement fund at the next meeting</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule CCC meetings for 2015 at next CCC meeting</li> <li><b>In progress</b></li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actions by Chair and Jonathan to seek new members of CCC</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jonathan and Rachael to draft communications/consultation plan</li> <li><b>In progress</b></li> </ul>

## Key Issues

#	Proposed Resolution(s)	Who	When	Status
1	Infigen to continue writing and distributing newsletters to the community	Jonathan		2 <sup>nd</sup> Newsletter distributed in June
2	CCC discuss and formulate a community consultation plan should the FCWF project be approved	Jonathan		Draft written and being reviewed
3	Jonathan to contact Blayney Shire CEO with respect to participation of a Shire Councilor on the CCC	Jonathan		Email sent 4 July 2014
4	Jonathan to contact Errowanbang School in relation to participating on the CCC	Jonathan	Before next meeting of CCC	Letter sent in November 2014
5	Blayney Shire to contact other Councils with regards to 'lessons learned' from their wind farm construction and operation	Mark		
6	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	