

MT EMERALD WIND FARM – COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
AGENDA/ MEETING MINUTES

Date	27/07/2017	Time	4:00 – 5:30
Venue	Walkamin Community and Sports Club Hall 1 Kurrajong Road, Walkamin		

Attendees		Kim Forde (Facilitator **) (KF)
Bronwyn Dwyer (BD)	John Hardy (JH)	Mark Malthouse – new Rep for MbarBarrum group. (MM)
John Parmenter (JP)	Ross Iraci (RI)	Don Lennox (DL)
David Reynolds (DR)		
Invited Guests:	Terry Johannesen (TJ)	Paul McDonald (PM)
Apologies	Rene Kuypers (RK)	Steve Lavis (SL)
	Dr Steve Turton (Indep Chair) ill (ST)	Sam Musumeci (SM)
	Jim Carey (JC)	

No.	Item / Discussion/ Action	Responsibility	Due date
1	<p>Welcome, Introductions and apologies</p> <p>** Dr Turton was ill on the day. KF asked the Committee if anyone would like to be Acting Chair. BD suggested KF continue to facilitate. Agreed by Committee.</p>		
2	<p>Pecuniary interests, minutes from last meeting</p> <p>Minutes provided – Agreed to. Follow up on issue of Noise Monitoring during Group Discussion</p>	<p>Nil issues</p> <p>All</p>	
3	<p>Purpose of Group – Communication and Representation <i>Independent Chair Steve Turton remind CCC of the Charter. The key element is to respect everyone else’s view to enable the group to function better and for information to flow.</i></p>	Chair	
4	<p>Roles, Rules, Responsibilities</p>	Chair	
5	<p>Project Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> construction progress: – comprising laydown area; road construction; prep of Powerlink sub-station; tower sites <p>Terry Johannesen (TJ) provided PPT presentation as part of Status Update. – attached</p> <p>JP – Safety of Powerlink Transformer Yard/sub-station. TJ – Powerlink will build exclusion fence. Transfer of the Powerlink bench to their ownership has commenced. Will be finalised shortly – aim by end of August.</p> <p>Concrete Batching Plant to be established next week. Concrete blinding layer commencing this week – to provide level base under tower foundations.</p> <p>Crushing Plant – 3 on site already. Low risk of noise.</p>	TJ	

	<p>JP - Rock breaker can be heard occasionally. Heard last explosion rock fall. Approx 20th July – completion of access road.</p> <p>JP – Stabilisation – what will occur. TJ – consolidation of top layer of roads – to Council ‘dirt road’ standard. Installation of silt fences and permanent drainage is happening as part of the ESC process under the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). All aimed to be completed by wet season.</p> <p>JH – Cut fill balance? TJ – small excess of cut on total site. Most cut material will be crushed and used to consolidate internal roads to appropriate standard: Council dirt road standard.</p> <p>Concrete: Agitators and Batching Plant on site. Semi’s loaded with cement, pozzolanics, sand and water. Large water trucks taking water constantly up to top of site. Water spraying for dust suppression of roads continues. No onsite extraction / capture of water. Water purchased from and extracted from Sunwater Channel at Kippen Dr intersection.</p> <p>Construction: ‘Anchor cages’ will be set into the bottom of each tower base.</p> <p>Mark Malthouse: Update from MbarBurrum Lots of quartz and rhyolite fragments identified Direct location system in place for identified sites – flag; GPS; collect, bag and store offsite until construction complete.</p> <p>New Rock Art located – not previously identified. Trying to carbon date – weathered Red ochre on limestone. There may be other rock art presence – anecdotal evidence.</p> <p>Mark’s grandfather, Albert Bennett, is one of the last people who speak his language. MBarBurrum are happy with the way RAC is dealing with cultural heritage issues. Footprint being protected by the current management strategies. Identified dated artefacts – many processed – documented and relocated to areas outside the site. Environmentally and Culturally significant area for Mbarburrum people – 2 minor changes have been made to site locations as a result of the Cultural Heritage Management Plan – adjusting the alignment of the road to protect key areas.</p>		
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	<p>Nursery – significant plants are being propagated in the nursery. Environment teams are identifying rare and threatened plants: Options: 1) Go around it; 2) remove and replant later; 3) destroy – compensated for in offset property. If possible, these are translocated. It has been quite successful so far. Seed collection is ongoing.</p> <p>Update continues: Quoll population – greater than expected. 95 collared. Breeding season has commenced. Males expected to die off over the next month. Aim to have major civil construction completed before baby quolls are born in September-November period.</p> <p>DR (after discussion with SL); Background noise monitoring – more interested in night time monitoring than full time monitoring. TJ – 3 lots of monitoring have been completed previously. For longer than required. In warmer months, insect noise gives a false (higher) reading. Winter gives the lowest level. If operation of the wind farm meets the ‘winter’ level, then the site should be compliant all year. Monitoring was conducted in November and twice in the winter months – May/July. The Australian Standard sets the number of monitoring and data points that are acceptable. Each monitoring unit costs \$40K - \$50K. \$300K - \$400K was spent each time to establish the baseline noise levels BD – what was benefit of 12 months? The average would have been higher? TJ – Monitoring results provided to government. Govt approved the background and noise monitoring points and set limits we have to meet. Govt happy with the results.</p> <p>JH – are the baseline levels the same for everyone? TJ – baseline levels change depending on location and wind speeds. Under a ‘no wind’ situation noise can get down to around 25dB. Under typical conditions the range of the background noise is 30 – 40dB.</p> <p>RI – would like monitoring results for his house.</p> <p>Turbine noise programs – what is ‘annoyance’ noise? TJ – purpose of monitoring and conditions are to reduce the risk of impact/annoyance to individuals; to protect quality of life. Based on what a ‘normal person’ would find acceptable. RI – 21 homes sued Mt Isa Council for noise from rodeo.</p> <p>DR – Differentiation and Synchronisation of noise. Is this based on distance between turbines?</p>	<p>TJ</p>	<p>Asap. Complete – Mon 31/07</p>
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	<p>TJ – Worst case is if ALL turbines turning in the same pattern. Very low chance that 2 turbines are turning at the exact same speed and pattern for any length of time. Chance drops dramatically for more turbines.</p> <p>DR – Blade thump?</p> <p>TJ – as with above, statistically very low (<1% chance)</p> <p>Turbines are synchronised to keep the revs constant. Turn at slower speeds (approx ½ rate of Windy Hill). At maximum RPM, blades turn out to slow speed.</p> <p>RI – new house being built on Lemon Tree Dr. approx 750m closer to the hill than previous closest resident.</p>		
6	<p>Items from previous meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise monitoring – discussed above 		
7	<p>Group Discussion – identify issues/ Requests for information/briefings</p> <p>Issues Raised by Mr Steve Lavis – for discussion: Request for the MEWF/RATCH random noise monitoring that was conducted at various locations in Nov-Dec 2009, May-June 2011 and May-June 2016, be provided.</p> <p>Background monitoring was not random and program was approved by the State government before being undertaken. The results of the monitoring have been accepted as being representative of the area by the state. State govt reviewed both the program and results and had them checked by their own experts.</p> <p>Background report is attached and is available on the project website.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>KF to confirm noise monitoring results are on website</p>	<p>asap</p>
8	<p>Information Sharing/ Information requests</p> <p>Any further requests for copies of laminated info sheet</p>	<p>KF</p>	
9	<p>Next meeting – timing and location –</p> <p>When date for delivery of first turbines is confirmed – approx early October.</p>	<p>KF to send invitations once dates are confirmed.</p>	

Meeting finished at 17.30