

Bango Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee Annual Report 2022

CCC / Project Name:	Bango Wind Farm CCC	Reporting Period:	March 2021 to March 2022
Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews	Proponent Contact:	Jonathan Post

1. Executive Summary

The Bango Wind Farm is located to the east of Lachlan Valley Way between the regional centres of Yass and Boorowa in the Southern Tablelands of NSW.

The site is located in the Hilltops and Yass Valley local government areas and forms part of a larger rural area used primarily for grazing.

Originally the project proposed the construction of up to 75 turbines, however, following submissions during the assessment process, mainly regarding biodiversity and visual concerns, it was reduced and approved by the Independent Planning Commission for 71 turbines. Following an appeal to the Land and Environment Court by third parties, consent was granted for 46 turbines (to be positioned within 49 locations). The project also involves the development of associated ancillary infrastructure.

The proponent, CWP Renewables Pty Ltd, consulted with the community from the commencement of its preparation for their development application in 2013. First meeting approximately once per year, the CCC now meets on a quarterly basis, alternatively between Yass and Boorowa venues.

The Community Consultative Committee (CCC) operates in accordance with the Department of Planning & Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Development (January 2019). The committee's membership consists of:

- Two local community representatives
- One Yass Valley Council delegate
- One Hilltops Regional Council delegate
- Three stakeholder group representatives (Boorowa District Landscape Guardians, Ngunnawal Aboriginal Corporation & Yass Business Chamber)
- One host landholder; and
- One Independent Chairperson.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

The project moved to construction in April 2019 with the awarding of the tender to the successful civil works and turbine supplier contractors.

Over the past 12 months, the CCC met in May 2021, August 2021, November 2021 and March 2022 with members receiving presentations and updates from the proponent's representatives on:

- Site map progress for the erection of the turbines in both the western and eastern clusters
- Site infrastructure (internal roads, etc)
- Rehabilitation and remediation works
- HV Electrical Cabl Terminations
- Engergisation/commissioning/hold point testing of units
- Complaints register
- COVID management on site with staff and contractors
- Aviation lighting on turbines
- Establishment of the Community Enhancement Fund
- Community engagement

- Community competitions (Christmas Light Up)
- Educational activities at local schools
- Presentations to local business groups
- Post consent approvals
- Preparation and approval of Management Plans
- Local contractors and employment information/statistics
- Management of the superb parrot population
- Substations and Meteorological Masts
- Micrositing of the turbine locations
- Community Sponsorship Program
- Water Usage
- Voluntary Planning Agreements with both Councils.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, the Council and the company. It fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines and has a diverse membership, representing the broader community.

There were no joint CCC's held in the region.

3. Key issues

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Impacts to community from construction & transportation activities	Community concerns were initially raised regarding possible impacts from construction and transportation activities.	Continued updates to be provided to the CCC. It should be noted that the feedback received indicates that the roadworks and transportation activities have been managed well and have not impacted too detrimentally on the community.
Management of the Superb Parrot	Condition 13 of the project approval requires CWP to contribute \$100,000 over 5 years to prepare and implement a Superb Parrot Conservation Research Plan. This will be incorporated with two other wind farm approvals in the region.	Ongoing updates to be provided to CCC.
Local employment opportunities	Members, especially stakeholder groups and Council delegates are very interested in ensuring that employment opportunities are provided to local residents.	Ongoing updates are provided to CCC.
Establishment of the project's Community	With the installation of the turbines, discussions are underway regarding the	Genuine interest from members to ensure the

Enhancement Fund (CEF)	establishment of the CEF to manage funds generated once the turbines become operational.	CEF provides benefit to the impacted community by supporting local projects.
Community Sponsorship	CWP continue to provide sponsorship for local community groups and schools.	Information provided to members at each CCC.
Aviation Lighting	Concerns have been raised by some members of the community in relation to the aviation lighting on top of the turbines.	Host Land holder representative met with the local MP who has raised the matter with the Minister for Planning. The company continue to work with DPE and CASA to achieve a satisfactory outcome for the community. The CCC will be kept informed about this matter.

4. Focus for next 12 months

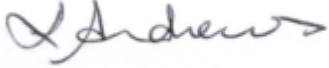
The focus for the next 12 months will continue to be the construction stage of the project, with a number of civil works being undertaken in and around the site.

The planned activities for 2022 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- Continued updates on environmental monitoring of the site.
- Continued updates on employment/sub-contractor opportunities for locals.
- Construction activities on site.
- Testing and commissioning for the energisation of underground system to progress to being brought online.
- Generation of the turbines.
- Continued engagement with the community regarding education programs and sponsorship opportunities.
- Implementation of the National Superb Parrot Conservation Plan.
- Implementation of the project's Community Enhancement Fund.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed.

CCC minutes and presentations are available on the website.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	6 April 2022