Boco Rock Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee – Annual Report for 2022

CCC / Project Name:	Boco Rock Wind Farm CCC	Reporting Period:	March 2021 to March 2022
Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews	Proponent Contact:	David Laing /Jessica Petersen

1. Executive Summary

The Boco Rock Wind Farm is situated on ridgelines 10km south west of Nimmitabel and 30km north of Bombala in NSW. The development was approved in August 2010 for up to 122 turbines, with Stage 1, comprising of 67 being constructed, which commenced operation in 2015. EGCO invested in the project in 2012 and now own the wind farm, however, the site is managed by CWP Asset Management.

The proponent, CWP Renewables Pty Ltd, consulted with the community from the commencement of its preparation for their development application in 2013. Originally meeting approximately once per year, the CCC moved to meet on a quarterly basis, in Nimmitabel, however, now the project is fully operational with little concerns, the committee now meets bi-annually.

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:

- Three local community representatives
- One Snowy Monaro Regional Council delegate
- One stakeholder group representative (Nimmitabel Advancement Group)
- One stakeholder group representative (Country Women's Association Nimmitabel Branch)
- Two company representatives
- One host landholder; and
- One Independent Chairperson.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

Stage 1 of the project has been operational since 2015 however, with Stage 2 of the development currently being assessed by DPE, regular briefings have been presented to CCC members by the proponent. The modification (MOD 1) for Stage 2 sought to amend the layout of the Yandra Cluster.

The CCC met in September 2021, November 2021 and February 2022 Members have received presentations and updates from the proponent's representative on:

- Modification 1 Proposed Yandra Project changes; response to submissions, design changes, key issues, themes, etc.
- Traffic and transport
- Community Enhancement Fund
- Operational Update
- Environmental issues
- Maintenance of turbines
- Wind generation/outputs; and
- Weed Management

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 attendance has been consistent.

3. Key issues

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Disbursement of monies from the Community Enhancement Fund (CEF)	This item is of particular importance to the CCC members who wish to ensure that the funds are distributed to the areas in the LGA most impacted by the project.	Continue to receive feedback at each CCC on the activities of the CEF committee.
Updates on progress of MOD 1	Regular updates are provided at the quarterly CCC meetings and via emails. Newsletters have been prepared and distributed into the broader community. The proponent is currently awaiting the determination of the application from DPE.	Ongoing updates to be provided.
Local employment opportunities	Where possible, local contractors were engaged for Stage 1 and it is proposed to continue this policy, should Stage 2 of the project proceed to construction.	Expressions of Interests to be registered online.
Visual Impacts	As is often the case with wind farms, visual impacts have been raised for the proposed Yandra Cluster.	Under assessment by Department of Planning, Industry & Environment.
Road maintenance	Some gravel and sealed roads around the project require ongoing maintenance, especially during the construction phase. Submissions have been made during the exhibition period of MOD 1 seeking conditions of consent for relevant roadworks.	Road dilapidation reports and quality control to be improved.

4. Focus for next 12 months

- The assessment of Modification 1 has been a long and protracted process. It is hoped that a determination will be made during the next quarter.
- The CCC will continue to receive updates on Modification 1 for the proposed changes to the Yandra Cluster (Stage 2).
- Continued updates on the environmental monitoring, land management and maintenance for the existing operational wind farm.
- Continue to negotiate a satisfactory outcome for the community on the CEF disbursing funds to the areas impacted by the construction and operation of the overall development.

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:	X Andrews
Date:	6 April 2021