Coppabella (Yass Valley) Wind Farm Annual Report 2018

The Project

Coppabella Wind Farm, owned by Goldwind Australia, is located in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales (approximately 30km west of Yass). The wind farm will extend approximately 12 kilometres west to east and approximately 10 kilometres north to south along the Coppabella Hills near the towns of Bookham and Binalong.

The wind farm was originally a distinct precinct within the larger proposed Yass Valley Wind Farm. The project was renamed Coppabella Wind Farm to reflect the reduction from the original project scope and more accurately represent its geographic location.

The NSW Government has approved construction and operation of up to 75 wind turbines and related civil and electrical infrastructure. Once operational, the wind farm production will power around 173,000 NSW homes each year. Construction of the wind farm, managed by Goldwind Australia, is expected to commence in mid-2019.

The Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

The Committee is made up of the Independent Chairperson - Nicholas Carmody OAM and the following members who reside within the Yass Valley and Hilltops Councils:

- Cr Rita O'Connor (Hilltops);
- Cr Geoff Frost (Yass Valley);
- Libby Elliott;
- Doug Painting;
- Paul Regan;
- John McGrath;
- Noeleen Hazell:
- Brenden McKay;
- Peter Holding.
 - Barbara Folkard & Alan Cole have been appointed as alternates for N.Hazell & J.McGrath.

Goldwind Australia have been represented by: - Tom Nielsen (Development Manager);

- Sunny Rutherford (Community Engagement Manager).

The Community Consultative Committee activities

A total of four CCC meetings have been held since the committee was formed in October 2017 - with three meetings held during 2018 (March, June & November). Minutes of the meetings can be found at http://www.coppabellawindfarm.com/community/community-consultative-committee/

Goldwind Australia have been open and transparent with the CCC. The proponent has opened an information office in Binalong for the benefit of the community and have supported financially many local organisations.

The major issues raised by the CCC over the past 12 months have concerns over the Modification Application SSD-6698-MOD-1 which was approved by Independent Planning Commission (IPC) in December 2018, which several members had the opportunity to address. The three CCC meetings held during 2018 were well attended by members, with several interested observers attending meetings. The Committee have been an excellent portal for disseminating information to the local community.

Nicholas Carmody OAM – Independent Chairperson

31st December 2018 Contact details: nic.carmody@bigpond.com