

Community Consultative Committee (CCC) – Annual Report

CCC project name:	Burrundong Wind Farm	Reporting period:	2022 & 2023
Independent chairperson:	Garry West	Proponent contact:	Andrew Wilson General Manager – Development NSW

1. Executive summary / introduction

The site proposed for Burrundong Wind Farm, east of Lake Burrundong and southeast of Wellington, is in the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone, an area identified as optimal for new projects to help NSW achieve its renewable energy targets.

The proposal currently involves up to 70 wind turbines with the total installed generating capacity of 400 -500 megawatts, having been reduced from 105 turbines. The Applicant, (formerly Epuron) Ark Energy Corporation Pty Ltd (Ark Energy), a wholly owned Australian subsidiary of Korea Zinc Company Ltd (Korea Zinc) acquired a 100% interest in Epuron Holdings Pty Ltd (Epuron).

The first Secretary’s Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) were issued by the NSW Department of Planning & Environment (DPE) in October 2020 and a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established and an Independent Chairperson was appointed in accordance with the DPE Community Consultative Committee Guideline for State Significant Projects 2019. The Independent Chairperson advertised for nominations for community and stakeholder representatives and local government. The members were appointed by DPE and the CCC held its first meeting in May 2021. Due to COVID-19 the next meeting was held in November 2021. Amended SEARs were issued by DPE in September 2022.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was commenced covering the key areas of noise, traffic and transport, telecommunications, surface water and ground water, social and economic and aviation. The project is a declared ‘controlled action’ under the *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act* (EPBC Act) and will be assessed under a bilateral agreement with the NSW DPE.

The EIS was placed on public exhibition via the DPE Major Projects portal on 16 November 2023 for 35 days.

2. CCC activities over last 24 months:

- The CCC met twice during 2022 and twice during 2023 for face-to-face meetings. Attendance at these meetings varied however, members attending provided feedback on issues of concern.
- The Proponent’s presentations at each meeting provided comprehensive updates on community engagement, environmental studies, and variations to the project design.

3. Key issues


Key issues raised by the CCC members have been:

- The proximity of proposed turbines to residences with noise and visual impacts.
- Impact on local roads as well as road reserve alignment..

- Bushfire risk & management.
- Fauna impacts.
- Decommissioning obligations, including disposal of turbine components.
- Turbine interference with farming GPS equipment and Tvs.
- Connection route to the new REZ infrastructure.
- Site access routes for construction due to the terrain of the site.

4. Focus for next 12 months:

- Review and monitor assessment.
- If approved, monitor consent conditions and construction.

Signature of chairperson:	
Date:	15 January 2024