

Thursday, 5 March 2020 at Pyramul Hall, Pyramul

Attendees	Initials	Position
Michael Silver OAM	MJS	Independent Chairperson
Owain Rowland-Jones	ORJ	Community Member
Andrew Hundy	AH	Community Member
Cr Esme Martens AM	EM	Mid-Western Regional Council delegate
Brendan McAvoy	BM	Project Director – CWP Renewables
Tony Igo	TI	Construction Project Manager – CWP Renewables
Dallas Edwards	DE	Consortium Manager – GEZ
Beth McCaffrey	BMc	Construction Manager - GEZ
Observers		
Marie Hensley	MH	Community Liaison Officer – CWP Renewables
Apology		
Max Price	MP	Community Member

Item	Details and Actions
1.0 Welcome and Introductions	Meeting opened at 10.13 am. MJS welcomed all present.
2.0 Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting is being held and recognised their continuing connection to land, waters and culture, paying respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.
3.0 Bereavement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair noted the recent passing of Community Member, Ms Ingrid Saywell. MJS expressed condolences to her family.
4.0 Declarations of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MJS declared that his expenses as Independent Chairperson are borne by the proponent.
5.0 Community Member Vacancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MJS noted that due to the recent passing of Ms Saywell, along with the previous community member resignation and Cr Esme Martens being appointed the Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC) delegate to the CCC, there now existed three community member vacancies on the CCC. MJS noted that nominations had recently been invited for two community representatives however requested that the proponent readvertise and invite nominations for three community representatives. It is expected that nominations will now close mid-April 2020. <p>ACTION</p>
6.0 Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
7.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2019 had been approved on 12 December 2019.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EM advised that MWRC had not been able to obtain approval to draw untreated water from standpipes at Windamere Dam.
<p>8.0 Action Items</p>	<p>1. Report on transport of blades and other components along Aarons Pass Road to the next CCC meeting.</p> <p>DE advised that a draft transport plan had been prepared and submitted to RMS for review.</p> <p>DE said it is proposed that the transportation will involve 3 pilots per blade to ensure motorists have adequate warning. It is estimated that motorists will have approximately 10 minutes waiting time (worst case) when travelling behind the blade.</p> <p>DE indicated that transport movements would not conflict with school bus movements or peak commuter movement times. The first movement to site would occur after 9.00 am. An indicative timetable of movements will be released to the community. It is anticipated that it will take 45 minutes for a blade transport to move along Aarons Pass Road from the Castlereagh Highway to the site.</p> <p>DE advised that where motorists meet a blade transport coming towards them on Aarons Pass Road, they should abide by the lead pilot's instruction and move into one of the passing bays established along the road and wait for the blade transport to pass.</p> <p>In response to a question from the Chair, DE indicated that blade transport to the site is expected to commence in late May/early July with deliveries to continue over the following 3 to 4 months.</p> <p>DE confirmed that blade transfer will be along the southern haulage route, viz. via the Blue Mountains. The towers for the project will be delivered via the northern haulage route. He advised that considerable notification will be provided to the community regarding project equipment delivery arrangements.</p> <p>DE advised that Police had not confirmed what level of involvement it will have in the blade transfers. However, it is likely that blade transport will occur in clusters of 6 consecutive days in a row. He said the issue of avoiding school times and school buses is an important consideration in the transport process. DE highlighted that in order to ensure a smooth transfer of the blades (and understanding of local conditions) the same drivers and escort personnel will be use throughout the process.</p> <p>BM reiterated that a high level of communication will occur with the community and particularly local residents that use Aarons Pass Road in the lead up to the blade transport commencing.</p>

<p>9.0 Proponent's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BM introduced the proponent's report and advised that upgrade works on Aarons Pass Road were now complete with sign-off by Mid-Western Regional Council. Further, the construction team will be checking damage and maintenance required on the road after the current wet weather clears. • DE presented the proponent's report (copy attached) and advised that there will be ongoing maintenance of the road during the construction of the project. • He advised that a 'trial-run' of the delivery of the blades would be undertaken during April 2020 to facilitate drivers familiarising themselves with the route, checkout potential areas of concern and minimise the need for further disturbance. He said it was important that the route along Aarons Pass Road has the capability to permit transfer of the blades without interference. • AH asked if there would be a need for further pruning on Aarons Pass Road? DE indicated that the main issue is ensuring that the rear tip of the blade has adequate clearance – a clearance check will be undertaken. BM added that he was confident that enough tree clearance has been undertaken but if necessary, in specific locations, selected trees may have to be removed. • EM enquired how the maintenance work on the upgraded Aarons Pass Road would be managed during the construction period and who ratepayers should contact if there are maintenance issues. DE advised that MWRC is the point of contact for road maintenance matters – Council will then assess the issue and provide instruction to the proponent regarding any required maintenance work. • DE advised that installation of foundations for the windfarm turbines would start in late April 2020. He indicated that practical completion for the project is scheduled for March 2021. • DE indicated that construction work will commence at the northern end of the project site, with access to be via the north access, adjacent to the new substation. It was noted that on the southern section of the project site there are two approved access points.
<p>10.0 Other Agenda Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
<p>General Business</p>	<p>11.1 Questions from Max Price</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mulch Treatment – expressing concern that mulch on road batters is unstable and may wash away. DE responded that the mulch treatment is a stabilizing measure for the topsoil. The installation has been supervised by a landscape specialist and endorsed by MWRC. ORJ questioned if the heavy mulch spread was a normal procedure with heavy rain likely to wash it into table drains. DE advised that mulch has been installed to the approved design – there will be ongoing monitoring by MWRC.

- **Rock Formations in table drains** – expressing concern that heavy rain will wash away the rocks. DE responded that the rocks were also part of the overall erosion control program. He also advised that the rock formations were part of the approved road reconstruction design with ongoing monitoring to be undertaken by MWRC.

11.2 Roadside Timber Debris – EM advised that the Illford-Running Stream RFS Brigade were concerned that the extent of residual timber debris left on the roadside following reconstruction of Aarons Pass Road will constitute a potentially severe fire hazard in the future. DE indicated that this matter had been specifically raised with MWRC however it was considered that the extent of residual timber was not excessive. It was noted that there was a minimum requirement for residual timber to support habitat maintenance and restoration. He also advised that a considerable amount of residual timber debris had been removed from the roadside and stockpiled in isolated bunds on the project site. ORJ highlighted the anxiety of the community regarding the potential of bushfires after the fires. BM indicated that CRWF will discuss the issue with Illford-Running Stream RFS Brigade.

ACTION

11.3 Road Scouring – EM commented on scouring on Aarons Pass Road as a result of the current rain. DE advised this would be addressed as part of the maintenance program.

11.4 Location of Turbine to Dwelling HER07 – AH again raised concerns regarding confirmation of the location of the turbine in the vicinity of dwelling HER07, wishing to ensure that it is at least 2 kilometres from the nearest residence. TI advised it will be 2 kilometres from the residence HER07, reiterating it won't be less than 2 kilometres. The Chair highlighted the relevant condition of consent and the minutes of the previous meeting under Action Item 2, noting that *'with regard to the particular residence discussed (HER07), condition 7(c) confirms that no WTG can be moved closer to the residence than the distance stated in Appendix 2.'*

11.5 TransGrid Vehicle on Sallys Flat Road – AH advised that he understood that a warning letter had been issued by the Department of Planning Industry & Environment (DPIE) regarding the non-compliant use of Sallys Flat Road by a TransGrid vehicle associated with the project on 15 October 2019. AH sought a copy of the warning letter from CRWF. BM disputed that CRWF was non-compliant but acknowledged that a warning letter had been issued in respect of the matter. He declined to release a copy of the letter.

Chair's note: *Post the meeting, MJS was contacted by Mrs Penny Hundy regarding public notification of the issue of the warning letters. Following up on the question with DPIE, it was*

confirmed that warning advices had been issued to both TransGrid and CRWF. DPIE advised that warning letters are not reported on the Department's website and there is also no requirement for the recipients to publicly notify the issue of a warning letter or release a copy to a third party.

11.6 Crane on Sallys Flat Road – AH expressed great concern about a crane from Mudgee travelling at 'horrendous' speed on Sallys Flat Road last week. BM advised he was trying to ascertain if it was associated with the project. He said he understood the concerns of residents regarding the unauthorised use of Sallys Flat Road. He indicated that all workers and contractors associated with the project are advised not to use Sallys Flat Road. Further, it is intended to install more signage and other management mechanisms to ensure project vehicles do not use Sallys Flat Road. He noted this action is a response of CRWF and not a direction the DPIE.

11.7 Sallys Flat Road Condition – AH expressed concern at the impact of quarry vehicles servicing CRWF on Sallys Flat Road. DE advised he was analysing options to reduce the quarry traffic on Sallys Flat Road. **Chair's note:** *The operation of the quarry and the traffic it generates is a separate consent to the CRWF project.*

BM advised that if contractors use Sallys Flat Road they will be off the project – if the crane incident is associated with the project, the driver will be dealt with severely. In response to questioning, he indicated he was unsure what action the DPIE would take on such a matter. BM did note that Sallys Flat Road is a heavy vehicle route.

11.8 Use of Bores – AH enquired as to the likely use of bores in proximity of Aarons Pass Road, viz. Prices Lane. DE advised it was intended to use this bore but restrictions in the modified consent in respect of heavy vehicles on Prices Lane has rendered the use of the Price bore as unfeasible. The use of a bore in the south section of the project site is now being assessed.

11.9 Operational Accountability Issues – AH suggested there were potentially long-term accountability issues arising. He questioned how long-term environmental issues, such as noise, can be managed, if CRWF can't stop a crane on Sallys Flat Road? BM advised that signage and cameras were consideration along with entry management to overcome unauthorised use of Sallys Flat Road. ORJ sought clarification of the responsibility of contractors complying with the consent. BM indicated the main contractors are fully aware of the consent requirements and that they may be held personally liable for a breach. BM suggested that non compliances are generally attributable to a 'one-off' contractor. AH questioned whether contractors can be issued with GPS devices for their vehicles in order to track movements. BM indicated all options are being examined. He

elaborated that entry gate management including camera installations are considerations – adding “we do take this issue seriously and are doing everything we can.”

11.10 Community Questions – ORJ tabled the following questions from a member of the local community for response:

- *Employment of locals – where are the jobs advertised in the local area?*
- *Are you employing backpackers? If not, why? (this is an important question).*
- *What onsite pipelaying work has been done since January this year?*
- *From 14 February 2020 you had a site shut down, however several staff were working after that date. What work was still being completed, as escort vehicle were still escorting trucks.*
- *With your incident log put onto your website each month, several incidents seem to be missing.*
 - *A vehicle roll-over in December 2019*
 - *Staff member wrote his car off on way to work near Glenroy Quarry in November 2019*

Can you advise why these are not noted?

AH also questioned the delivery of pipes to the southern section of the project site during the shutdown period. BM and DE responded that some required environmental works were necessary to limit erosion and other environmental issues. It was agreed that BM and BMc would respond to the questions by 16 March 2020 – attached as Appendix B.

ACTION

11.11 Hydrology Reports – ORJ again questioned why the community can’t be provided with the hydrology reports for the project, noting the significant concern regarding the impact on bores in the locality. AH added that now that the Price bore won’t be used, it now applies to area around the bore in the southern section of the project site. In response BM advised that the reports have been provided to the responsible technical experts and the relevant approval authorities that have granted approvals and licences. He indicated updates relative to these approvals will be provided to the CCC.

AH questioned what happens if farm bores drop in level as a result of water being drawn for the project - “Is there enough for everybody?” He also questioned what checks have been made on the capacity of the aquifer to support the demand of the project. The Chair indicated he would enquire of the DPIE regarding the assessment/approval/licencing processes regarding the use of ground water for the project. It was also

	<p>agreed that DE will provide a detailed report, at the next meeting, on the expected water usage of up to 65 megalitres per year over 2 years given that it is unlikely the Price bore will not be used and the southern bore will now operate. ACTION</p> <p>11.12 Onsite Installation of Pipeline – ORJ questioned why a poly pipeline had been installed on the project site in August 2019 when no site work was to be carried out. DE advised that this work related to the roadworks on Aarons Pass Road.</p> <p>11.13 Questions from Owain Roland-Jones – ORJ tabled a list of questions (attached as Appendix A) for response by the proponent. The Chair advised that the questions be taken on notice by the proponent with written responses to be provided at the next CCC meeting. ACTION</p> <p>11.14 Aarons Pass Road Conditions – ORJ highlighted various concerns regarding the design, condition and installation of warning devices and signs on Aarons Pass Road. He made mention of the need for speed advisory signage on bends and the design and structural capability of causeway. DE confirmed that MWRC had signed off on the causeways as structurally sound as well as the general road works associated with the reconstruction of the road. He further advised road maintenance will be undertaken during the construction phase of the project. The Chair noted that on rural gravel roads it was essential that motorists drive to the conditions.</p> <p>11.15 Road Safety – AH enquired whether road safety considerations, particularly on gravel roads is considered as part of the induction of staff and contractors. DE indicated that road etiquette and safety has been previously raised at staff toolbox meetings and will be reinforced at forthcoming meetings.</p>
12.0 Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday, 9 June 2020 at Pyramul Hall commencing at 10.00 am.

Meeting closed at 12.08pm.

MJS thanked all present for their attendance.

Action Items:

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Provision of hydrology reports to the community <i>Note: It was confirmed at the meeting of 12 November 2019 that the hydrology reports would not be made publicly available.</i>	BM COMPLETED 27/08/19
2	Confirmation of distance of turbine HE07 to nearest residence to be verified. <i>Response provided post meeting.</i>	BM COMPLETED 21/11/19
3	Provision of noise level calculations and associated reports to the community.	BM COMPLETED 27/08/19

4	The Chair to approach DPE regarding approval for the appointment of additional alternate members for community members of the CCC.	MJS COMPLETED 27/08/19
5	Presentation of formal advice from Mid-Western Council regarding use of Council water for roadworks.	DE COMPLETED 12/11/19
6	Report on transport of blades and other components along Aarons Pass Road to the next CCC meeting	BM COMPLETED 05/03/20
7	Report on traffic movements on Aarons Pass Road. <i>Details provided post meeting.</i>	DE COMPLETED 21/11/19
8	That details on the quantity of water used on the construction site be provided to the CCC by 22 November 2019. <i>Details provided post meeting</i>	BM COMPLETED 12/12/19
9	The Chair to follow up on consents issued by Bathurst Regional Council and Mid-Western Regional Council in respect of quarry developments in the area.	MJS COMPLETED 25/12/19
10.	That CRWF re-advertise and invite nominations for three community representatives to the CCC.	MH COMMENCED
11.	That CRWF discuss the issue of residual timber debris on the roadside of Aarons Pass Road with the Illford-Running Stream RFS Brigade.	DE
12	That CRWF provide responses to questions from a member of the community by 16 March 2020 – refer Appendix B.	BM & BMc COMPLETED 16/03/20
13.	That CRWF provide a report on the expected water usage for the project, of up to 65 megalitres per year over 2 years, from the Price bore and the southern sector bore at the next CCC meeting.	BM & DE
14.	That the Chair make enquiries of the DPIE regarding the assessment/approval/licencing processes in respect of the use of ground water for the project.	MJS
15.	That CRWF provide written response to questions from Owain Roland-Jones detailed in Appendix A by the next meeting.	BM, DE, TI COMPLETED 07/04/20

Meeting Minutes Approved:

Michael J Silver OAM
Independent Chair
Date: 7 April 2020