

Project Name	Mid North Wind Fa	rm		Meeting Date	2 February 2012	
Meeting / Subject	Community Liaison	nunity Liaison Group		Recorded By	MP	
	Meeting 2			Total Pages	14	
			1			
Facilitator:	Georgina House	e (GH)	Aurecon			
Members:	Abby Walker-Sc	hwartz (AWS)	Waterloo Resident			
	Andrew Allchurc	. ,	Gilbert Group CFS			
	Cindy Nolan (CN	۷)	Regional Developme	nt Australia		
	Colin Endean (C	E)	ACF Climate Project, Transition Action Group			
	David Clarke (D	C)	Crystal Brook			
	Glenn Christie (GC)	Barossa			
	Heidi Hodge (HH	H)	Stony Gap Resident			
	John Faint (JF)		Waterloo and District	Concerned Citizer	ns Group	
	Lis Jones Ingma	ın (LJI)	Burra Community Management Committee			
	Peter Edson (PE	Ξ)	Burra Regional Tourism and Business Association			
	Pip Edson (PE1)	Burra Regional Art G	allery		
	Yvonne Cloke ()	YC)	Barossa Lower North	Futures Inc		
TRUenergy Representatives	Clint Purkiss (CF	>)	Project Development	Manager		
	Michael Head (N	ИН)	OHS&E (Cathedral R	Rocks and Waterloc)	
	Jason Watson (JW)	Wind Farm Operation Waterloo)	ns Manager (Cathe	dral Rocks and	
	Sarah Stent (SS	i)	Corporate Affairs Manager			
	Sarah Neville (S	N)	Communications Adv	visor		
Guests	Christophe Dela	ire (CD)	Acoustic Engineer, N	larshall Day Acous	tics	
Observers	Hon Geoff Brock	k MP (GB)	Member for Frome			
	Trevor White (T	N)	Wind Farm Liaison C	Officer		
Apologies	Ross Edwards (RE)	TRUenergy General	Manager, Generati	on Development	
	Cameron Garns	worthy (CG)	TRUenergy Senior R	enewables Manage	er	
	Hon Nick Cham	pion MP (NC)	Member for Wakefiel	d		
	Hon Rowan Ran	nsey MP (RR)	Member for Grey			
	Hon Dan van Ho (DHP)	olst Pellekaan	Member for Stuart			
	Jenny Turner (J	T)	Burra Community Ma	anagement Commit	tee	
	Vincent Bransor	n (VB)	Ngadjuri Walpa Juri I	Lands and Heritage	Association Inc	
Minute Taker	Mel Pinding (MP	')	Aurecon			



Item	Торіс	Action By
1	Welcome and Apologies	
1.1	 Welcome by GH GH welcomed everyone to the second Mid North Wind Farm Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting. Special welcome to: Members unable to attend last meeting: Cindy Nolan and David Clarke. Observers: Hon Geoff Brock MP (Member for Frome), Trevor White (Wind Farm Liaison Officer). TRUenergy representatives: Sarah Stent (Corporate Affairs Manager), Sarah Neville (Communications Advisor), Jason Watson (Wind Farm Operations Manager - Cathedral Rocks and Waterloo Wind Farms). Christophe Delaire (Acoustic Engineer, Marshall Day Acoustics). Thank you for attending this second meeting and for your patience while we looked at options for changing our original meeting time. This change was considered important due to the clash in meeting time with the State Government Wind Farm Policy Public Meeting being held this evening in Peterborough. Pleasingly this meeting time was acceptable to most members we contacted. 	
1.2	 Apologies (GH) Jenny Turner, Burra Community Management Committee Vincent Branson, Chairperson of the Ngadjuri Walpa Juri Lands and Heritage Association Inc Ross Edwards, TRUenergy General Manager, Generation Development Cameron Garnsworthy, TRUenergy Senior Renewables Manager Hon Nick Champion, Member for Wakefield Hon Rowan Ramsey, Member for Grey Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan, Member for Sturt Agenda and Housekeeping (GH) Outline of agenda 	
	 Outline of agenda Item 7 – Geothermal and Solar Projects will be deferred and presented at a future meeting by Cameron Garnsworthy. All questions to be directed through the facilitator. General housekeeping, supper break, toilets, emergency exits. Thanks to Gally's for hosting this meeting. 	



Item	Торіс	Action By
2	Review Minutes of Previous Meeting (GH)	
£	Action Points	
	 Page 6, Item 2.2 – Georgina to develop a draft Charter and circulate to CLG members for review and comment. CLG Members to review and provide comment. The Charter was drafted and a copy distributed to all. No comments were received and accepted by all. Charter will now be published on the TRUenergy website along with other information regarding the CLG. Page 10, Item 3 – TRUenergy to follow up with Council regarding post-construction road upgrades and maintenance associated with Waterloo Stage 1 Clint Purkiss followed up with Council – Road maintenance will not be left until post Stage 2. Council is aiming to ensure works minimise disturbance and provide maximum community benefit. Clarification by AWS – Issue was relating to arrowolized bit up in the provement. 	
	graveling/bituminisation of roads, not general improvement.	
2.1	 Introduction to New Members GH invited members and observers attending for the first time to briefly introduce themselves and their interest and involvement in the local community and/or wind farms 	
	David Clarke	
	 Concerned about Climate Change – feels we have ethical responsibility to 'lift our game' Generally 'pro' wind power <i>GH: David also hosts a very informative website on wind power and wind farms: <u>http://ramblingsdc.net/Australia/WindPower.html</u></i> 	
	<u>Cindy Nolan</u>	
	 Business Development Officer at Regional Development Australia, Yorke & Mid North Here to learn as much as passible shout wind forms in general and in 	
	 Here to learn as much as possible about wind farms in general and in relation to employment 	
	Hon Geoff Brock MP	
	 Member for Frome (including Waterloo) Interested in community concerns regarding Wind Farms Role is to listen and understand comments and concerns from local community 	



3	Overview of TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm Projects	
3.1	Michael Head – Waterloo Wind Farm Update	
	Background	
	 January was a great production month – windy conditions (seasonal) helped to exceed wind production estimates. Close to 40% capacity factor. Low turbine downtime. Very low maintenance requirements due to consistent winds. All cable joints have been replaced since the last meeting in November and as a result, there have been no turbine failures. 	
	Community Initiatives	
	 Tours have been undertaken of the Wind Farm by several Councils, SA Murray Daring Basin NRM Board and local community club. Sponsorship has been approved for Clare Easter Races 2012 and Tour Down Under 2012 Proposed Information Signage at Waterloo is on hold pending revision of budget estimate provided to TRUenergy. 	
	Environmental	
	 1 Nankeen Kestrel bird strike reported during past 3 months of operation Currently working on civil remediation to address erosion issues on site 	
	 Several fox and feral cat sightings on site – MH reports back to landholders as these occur 	
	<u>Operational</u>	
	 TRUenergy is very focused on Occupational Health and Safety Zero Lost Time Injury (LTI's) since operation began 	
	<i>Q: What is an LTI?</i><i>A:</i> A Lost Time Injury is an injury occurring in the workplace which results in time lost from work.	
	All staff (with the exception of Admin) undertook a Tower Rescue Training in December 2011	



3.2	Michael Head – Overview of Economic Benefits	
	Michael provided an overview of some of the economic benefits of Waterloo Wind Farm and an overview of how the local community can gear up for development of the proposed Stony Gap Wind Farm (addressing Agenda Item 5).	
	Economic Benefits - Local	
	 Total benefit to local industry from construction of Waterloo Wind Farm - \$18million Approximate annual benefit of Waterloo Wind Farm to local economy - \$2.5million 	
	<u>'Shop Local'</u>	
	 TRUenergy endeavours to procure goods and services from local suppliers that have effective and sustainable processes in place Construction documents (including tender documents and contracts) specifically outline the requirement of sub contractors to "Shop Local" (whenever financially viable) TRUenergy is interested in receiving Capability Statements from local vendors (email to michael.head@truenergy.com.au) in preparation for construction of Stony Gap Wind Farm – need to include: OHS&W Policy Environmental Policy Statement of Insurance Policies Financial Terms Relevant Examples of previous work Typical services sought: Civil Contractors Sign Writing Hardware Supplies Trades Office Personnel Labourers Catering Accommodation 	
	several members would like to spend more time at a future meeting looking at how to help the local community prepare for new developments such as the proposed Stony Gap Wind Farm (e.g. best ways to raise awareness, training local businesses may need, key stakeholders who can assist)	



	New Research / Findings
	 Michael referred to a new publication "Exploring Community Acceptance of Rural Wind Farms in Australia: A Snapshot" – Independent Report on Wind Farm Acceptance released during January 2012. Copies of the Summary were handed out at the meeting.
.3	Clint Purkiss – Stony Gap Wind Farm Update
	 Public Notification for proposed Stony Gap Wind Farm finished yesterday (Feb 1) Development Application is a 270 page document which can be found on the TRUenergy website for public viewing Next step - Development Assessment Panel Hearing potentially to be held in March 2012 Environment Protection Authority (EPA) assessed the application as fully compliant based on noise modelling provided. Any changes will require secondary validation as part of design and compliance process Natural Resources Management (NRM) noted presence of Pygmy Blue Tongues in very specific areas of vegetation that will be avoided. Peregrine falcons were also noted and a buffer distance will be applied between operations and active nests Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) commented on Traffic Management Plans regarding the transport route to site and the infrastructure crossings on the transmission line and the requirement for management of contractors and notification to DTEI as an associated party. Heritage Department noted no significant impact on any Aboriginal or European heritage items of note No further Requests for Information were received To give a perception of what the wind farm would look like, Clint provided photos taken from the oval and the highway – these show little to no visibility of turbines Final recommendations are now with Council for assessment <i>Q: Will the proposed transmission line on the south end to Robertstown be above or underground?</i>



	Clint Purkiss – Waterloo 2 Wind Farm Update	
3.4	 Expansion to existing Waterloo wind farm to include six turbines Currently at feasibility assessment stage (Feb and March 2012) DAL adgreent DA Assessment and Bublic Natification expected to 	
	 DA Lodgement, DA Assessment and Public Notification expected to occur between April and July 2012 	
	Q: Are the results of the Flora and Fauna Studies publically available?	
	A: The Stony Gap Wind Farm DA available on our website contains the Flora and Fauna studies which have been undertaken. Studies for Waterloo 2 are still being finalised.	
	Q: It seems convenient that the Development Applications for Stony Gap and Robertstown were done during the Christmas and New Year's period when everyone is away. Why was this the case?	
	A: An application to renew permissions for the Robertstown wind monitoring mast had to be lodged before it expired, this timing was not flexible. Lodgement of the Stony Gap Development Application was based on the new guidelines – TRUenergy made a strategic decision to lodge its DA with Council under the new process which was introduced last year. There was no intent not to disclose information to the public. The public consultation period for Stony Gap just ended on Feb 1 – by that time most people would have returned to work from the Christmas and New Year's break. Prior to that we held Information Day in Burra in November and have had project information on our website for past four months.	
	 Q: What happened to the other pairs of Wedged Tailed Eagles? We know where the birds and fauna are in the area. MH provided a response and further clarification was sought following the meeting, see below. 	
	 Point of clarification from TRUenergy: A: The Flora and Fauna Survey carried out by Brett Lane and Associates for Waterloo Wind Farm (2004) recorded 1 pair of Wedge Tailed Eagles in the survey area. On one occasion a third Wedge Tailed Eagle was recorded and on one occasion a third individual was observed in the study area along with the pair. 	
	The observed pair (1 bird from the pair) was observed carrying a stick. Upon further investigation the bird was observed trending an established nest on D Circuit. This nest was one of 10 identified along the entire ridge.	
	Surveys were carried out in both Autumn and Spring. Multiple pairs of Wedge Tailed Eagles were not observed at any time during the survey period.	
	Dr. Cindy Hull will be present at the next CLG meeting. Dr. Hull is an internationally recognised Avian Ecologist. Dr. Hull will provide information on Wedge Tailed Eagle behaviour.	



	As part of the reporting requirements of TRUenergy, all incidents must be recorded. To date 1 Wedge Tailed Eagle death has been attributed to the Wind Farm and recorded.	
	In 2011 a pair of Wedge Tailed Eagles successfully bred and fledged a chick from an established nest on B Circuit. The chick was observed in the sky on the afternoon of December 16th on the Eastern side of the Wind Farm near Apolinga Lagoon. Since this date, the active nest has been vacant.	
Q	: What was the bird population baseline i.e. before and after	
	construction, i.e. is the eagle population growing, stable etc?	
A	This is detailed in the Waterloo Wind Farm Flora and Fauna reports.	
	Eagles do move around – nests can remain unoccupied for years and then the eagles return.	
A	A made a statement that there are three eagles nests on his land and	
	at they are not always in use by eagles.	
	• GH: Suggest a flora and fauna presentation and discussion at	
	an upcoming meeting and reference to related documents which led to approval.	
Q	: When will Stony Gap come under construction?	
	: If an investment decision is made in October 2012, we would be	
	hoping for Q1/Q2 2013.	
Q	: Which turbine is proposed to be closest to Burra?	
A	: Using the 275kV transmission line which crosses the ridgeline as a	
	reference point – the first turbine is sited just to the South of that structure.	
Q	: How do you ensure contractor compliance with	
	environmental policies? Often they mean well, but fail to	
Δ	<i>comply.</i> : We would have a TRUenergy representative on site and a Build and	
	Construct contract to ensure compliance. We also work with the	
	wider community to monitor this. We need to take lessons from	
	Roaring 40's such as Waterloo Wind Farm – events like speeding	
	through the town will not be tolerated. We will work with Councils to	
	ensure remediation has been done, we would sign-off on a weekly	
	basis. This links back to OHS. It can be hard to comply in the construction industry which is why we need to constantly monitor.	



	Point of clarification from TRUenergy:	
	TRUenergy includes contractor obligations for maintaining expected occupational, health, safety and environment standards in procurement contracts. Businesses unable to meet required standards are not hired. Those that agree to uphold standards and that are subsequently engaged are audited annually by TRUenergy to ensure compliance with all operational performance requirements.	
	Breaches of environmental standards or other standards result in a non- conformance. TRUenergy require the non-conformance addressed to our satisfaction, in a specified timeframe Inability or unwillingness to do so can result in contract termination and financial penalties for contracted businesses	
	Q: Where are the turbines manufactured?	
	A: The turbines for Cathedral Rocks Wind Farm were manufactured in	
	Denmark by Vestas, but the manufacturer may vary from site to site.	
	SUPPER BREAK	
4	Presentation: Understanding Noise (Christophe Delaire)	
	 Introduction to Christophe Has worked at Marshall Day Acoustics as Acoustic Engineer since 2002 Working on Wind Farms in VIC and SA for TRUenergy Has worked on Waterloo and Stony Gap Wind Farms Key topics of presentation: What is noise? Noise into the context of EPA Guidelines Christophe provided some background into how we hear, sound frequency and wavelength, decibel scale and decibel addition Christophe explained wind farm noise policy in Australia as including: SA EPA Wind farms environmental noise guidelines (July 2009) Australian Standard Acoustics – Measurement, prediction and assessment of noise from wind turbine generators (March 2010) EPHC Draft National Wind Farm Development Guidelines (July 2010) The SA EPA Wind farms environmental noise guidelines can prescribe noise limits, the Australian Standard cannot. 	



		What does EPHC stand for? Environment Protection Heritage Council.	
	•	 Christophe went into the SA EPA Wind farms environmental noise guidelines (July 2009) in more detail covering: Methodology Noise limits Prediction method Compliance assessment Tonality and annoying characteristics 	
	•	 Christophe then provided an overview of Waterloo Wind Farm covering: Compliance assessment Noise impact assessment 	
		Is the baseline testing conducted prior to tower construction?	
/	A:	Yes.	
		At what distance is the noise testing conducted? You would need to refer to the acoustic reports for specifics – it varies depending on number of turbines and nature of the proposed layout. In relation to the Waterloo Wind Farm we have conducted testing at around 4kms away. We're required to conduct post construction testing in the same location as the pre-construction testing. If compliance is achieved at the closest testing point, then it is deemed to comply at the furthest point also.	
	Q:	With regard to prediction methods – can this also work in complex terrain?	
,	A:	There is no allowance for complex terrain. We need to analyse on a case by case basis when making predictions. May need to use other methods.	
		Is noise travelling downhill, greater? Noise is not based on gradient – if the source is close to the ground then there is more noise absorption. The level of noise reflection depends on the type of terrain. Keep in mind that mathematical predictions assume all noise sources provide the same contribution of noise. We use the worst case wind conditions to analyse.	
•	Q:	With regard to 'worst case' – after a certain wind speed the turbines stop spinning – does the worst case go up to that level?	
	A:	 It's very rare for wind to reach the speed that would cause a shut-off of the turbines. MH: We have only experienced four occasions of high speed cut out (i.e. gusts of wind) in 18 months – this really is a rarity. 	



	We had a wind monitor in our yard – did the noise testing results come from there?
	All wind data comes from various sites, then we combine it to analyse.
JF:	We have conducted surveys and people say they can't sleep.
CD.	The purpose of the wind monitoring is to minimise noise, not create inaudibility. The decrease in background noise (often occurring at night) makes the turbines more audible. During the day, with higher background noise, the turbines are harder to hear (as background noise is generally higher than turbine noise). This comes down to expectations at the start of the project – it's not feasible to expect absolutely no noise from the turbines.
JF:	So we have to sleep during the day if we can't sleep at night time.
CD:	Noise affects people differently. What may be considered 'annoying' to one person, may be considered relaxing to another. We have based the limits on World Health Organisation Guidelines for Community Noise, which recommends indoor levels not exceed 30dB to avoid sleep disturbance.
JF:	This is a serious problem. Nothing is being done and something needs to be done. People are finding alternate places to sleep.
A:	This is causing isolation in populated areas and is a huge problem. Can you guarantee the problem will be resolved? No – but I can guarantee that this noise monitoring is helping to ensure the Wind Farms comply with the limits set for wind farms by the relevant authorities.
A:	What about the 'Whispering Wall' effect? There are sometimes complex geographical factors that must be taken into consideration and these must be analysed on a case by case basis.
	When you consider taking the 'worst case' out of 3 or 4 weeks of testing – isn't this seasonal? Doesn't testing need to be redone under other conditions to ensure compliance? It is seasonally dependent. It's difficult to ensure one day will be
	different to the next. By taking the worst case, we're analysing the largest contribution of noise. Seasons vary and the concentration of noise will be different, but the 'scatter' will be larger.
	Where is wind speed measured on the turbine? Generally at hub-height, or at two different heights then we extrapolate.



 Q: If the data you obtain is not compliant, what do you do? A: Removing background noise is extremely difficult. Before telling TRUenergy to shut down their turbines, we would assess whether it's the Wind Farm creating the noise or whether background noise has somehow increased. It would require further investigation. In some cases we would go to the operator and ask them to reduce the output of the turbine, therefore reducing the noise. 	
 Q: Once the noise is deemed EPA compliant, is there any further testing done? A: If the noise is considered EPA compliant at one time, it is considered EPA compliant over time. Of course if someone complains, the circumstance is investigated and if we find the wind farm is okay, we will further investigate what the issue may be. 	MH to work with TRUenergy to plan a further update on noise assessment,
 MH: We can bring Christophe back to the next meeting to further discuss noise issues. We will bring in some Waterloo specific examples, we will just need to remove references for the sake of privacy. 	including reference points at Waterloo
 Stony Gap Wind Farm – Gearing up for development This topic was covered in Item 3.2 above. 	
 Community Support and Sponsorship – Sarah Stent TRUenergy has guidelines regarding opportunities for community support and sponsorship Varies depending on region Keen to hear your ideas and suggestions – willing to discuss further with the CLG and will decide on merit Some support programs implemented on a needs basis, i.e. Staff Bushfire Appeal TRUenergy's approach to community programs is two-fold: Corporate Program Corporate led and managed Brand reputation focus Retail customer retention / acquisition Local asset community assistance program Expression of Interest process Selected for fit with local criteria Contributes to corporate brand / reputation Asset led and managed 	
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	 Wind Farm Support Short Term Extension of CVA partnership to region Clare Easter Races Community Bike Ride Medium Term Investigation of suitable partnerships and fit with strategy Assessment of applications on receipt The Future? Extension of retail offers to community (i.e. GreenPower, One Big Switch) YC: We are interested more in partnership opportunities and sustainable ideas rather than sponsorship of one off events per se. Would be keen to be included in a Steering Committee to investigate sustainable outcomes. SS: Keen to discuss opportunities with YC and other key stakeholders further. CN: It's important to help local business become compliant through training or mentoring so they can go for the work. You would need to go into each business individually and assess case by case. Need to build community capacity. MH: We are "here for the long term". It's much better to provide long term sustainable outcomes than sponsor something \$500 here and \$500 there. GH: Potential to continue this discussion at one of our future meetings.
7	 Geothermal and Solar Projects This item deferred to next meeting – to be presented by Cameron Garnsworthy
8	 Other Business <u>2012 CLG Meeting Calendar</u> GH asked all to review the suggested dates of the future CLG Meetings and agree on suitability. Agreed to all suggested dates, with Thursday 19 April 2012 being the next meeting. GH to attach Calendar to minutes



	Other handouts
	 TRUenergy Baseline Survey - The purpose of the survey is to monitor community awareness of wind farm projects and TRUenergy over a period of time. It would be appreciated if CLG Members could complete the survey and email/post to Georgina House prior to the next meeting or bring along to the next meeting CLG Feedback Form: The purpose of this form is to offer CLG Members an opportunity to provide any feedback (beyond that given at any meeting) to Georgina House at any time. Other documentation may be of interest, please peruse at your leisure, including: Flinders News, Newspaper article – "Riders converge on the Valley", 25 Jan 2012 Summary – Acceptance of rural wind farms in Australia: a snapshot, National Research Flagships Energy Transformed, CSIRO, 2012 Final Report, Lifecycle Assessment of the Waterloo Wind Farm for Roaring 40s Ltd, PE Australasia, Oct 2011 Waterloo & Stony Gap Wind Farm Update, Newsletter, Issue 1, Dec 2011
9	Topics for the Next Meeting The CLG discussed and identified the following key topics as the preferred topics for the next few meetings:
	 Flora, Fauna and Habitat Noise Monitoring (continued) Community Support and Sponsorship - Partnership Opportunities and Gearing the Community up for development Geothermal and Solar Projects Landscape Character – when is enough enough?
	Meeting Close

Next Meeting: Thursday April 19 2012 - 4.30-6.30pm at Gally's Meeting Place, Farrell Flat.

Attachments include:

- 2012 CLG Meeting Calendar
- Agenda for CLG Meeting, Thursday 19 April 2012

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