



**COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP
Minutes**

Date: 03/04/18

Time: Start 7.30pm and finished 8.45pm

Place: Bungaree Rec Centre

Attendance: Tracey Ward (Lal Lal Wind Farms), RR, SW, AA, KB, MF

Apologies: MS, DR, Bronwyn Southee (Moorabool Shire Council), SM, PB

Guests: Rob Frazer (Zenviron), Lyndon Talyor (Zenviron)

Meeting Agenda

Item	Description	Action	Who By	Due
1	<p>Introductions TW said that MS is an apology and TW will chair the meeting tonight.</p> <p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>Previous minutes discussed,</p> <p>TW asked for a motion that the previous minutes be accepted and read</p> <p>Rob and Lyndon provided a quick update on construction which is commencing week starting the 9 April.</p> <p>Mobilisation will commence. Access tracks and site compound assembly. Work will be based around Duggans Lane to start. Concrete batch plant will also be on site. TW said that she will provide regular updates to the CRG on how construction is progressing.</p>	<p>Accepted</p> <p>Seconded</p>	<p>RR</p> <p>PB</p>	<p>KB</p> <p>AA</p>

Item	Description	Action	Who By	Due
2	<p>Update on noise compliance regime.</p> <p>TW said that LLWF's is considering application from a number of consultants to conduct a peer review assessment of the Sonus data. Flinders University is included in the list of applicants.</p> <p>LLWF's is evaluating these applicants according to specific criteria which includes EPA accreditation.</p> <p>A decision will be made in the next week and this will be communicated with both LLEPA and LLWF's CRG.</p> <p>A community meeting will then be held to discuss the findings in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>TW read out the letter from Penny Wang responding to the vote taken at the previous CRG meeting where a vote was taken in support of using Flinders University to conduct the peer review (see letter at the end of minutes, Attachment 1).</p> <p>TW asked for comments and questions. TW said the letter would be circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>At the request of MS, TW read out an email from LLEPA regarding their preference for using Flinders University to conduct the peer assessment of Sonus data (see email at the end of these minutes, Attachment 2). TW asked for comments and questions. TW will circulate this email with minutes of CRG meeting.</p>			
3	<p>Update from Community Engagement Manager, monthly report for March 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Info centre: there were 6 visitors to Info Centre over the last month. Enquiries about landscaping and employment. • Voluntary Landscape program: we are continuing to make appointments for 			

Item	Description	Action	Who By	Due
	<p>landscaping assessments. Aiming to book in 14 appointments a month over 2 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: receiving about 2-3 enquiries a week through the website. This information is then sent to our contractors. • CRG recruitment: AA and SW considered a new application to join the CRG. The CRG has just recruited 3 new people within the last 2 months. Currently the number of CRG representatives is in line with the catchment area of LLWF's. The applicant will be informed that they can maybe reapply in 2 years when some of the CRG members will be rotating to allow for new members to join. • Construction update: starts next week. • Yendon haulage route, update: TW summarised the community consultation with the Yendon end of the haulage route, through the Avenue of Honour. TW and construction crew met with arborist from the Shire and Friends of Yendon Group. The trees were measured and their lowest point. Clearance of 4.7 metres is required for blades and 5.5 nacelles. Nacelles will now go through Lal Lal and blades through Yendon. There should be clearance for the blades. Construction crew , Friends of Yendon and Shire arborist will all meet again in October before the trucks come through to remeasure the trees. Some very minor trimming may be required. This will be arranged by the Shire arborist, if required. • Get together for the start of construction: options were discussed of format and location. Ideas were Lal Lal Soldiers Hall or Elaine. Perhaps a BBQ would be a good idea so people can meet the site crew. 			
4	<p>Community Benefit Fund discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion paper on CBF's with other projects: It was decided that there are some good ideas but there would be administration involved. Leave things as they are for the next year and see what applications are received for funding. 			

Item	Description	Action	Who By	Due
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated guidelines: Discussion around communities included in area. There was suggestion that this area could change once the local communities have completed all their projects. 			
5	Community Reference Group, terms of reference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated TOR: TW mentioned she added in a code of conduct. 			
6	Community issues and complaints (Feedback from TW) Landscaping: some frustrations from some people that there has been a delay in follow up. Application have been taken from West Wind in May 2017. TW said she will include landscaping information in the new community bulletin going out next week and will mention this when door knocking.			
7	Any further Items? Some discussion about rotating the venue of CRG meetings to Bungaree, Yendon, Lal Lal and Elaine. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. There is a preference to having future meetings in the winter months at 7pm instead of 7.30pm. Next meeting 1 May at 7pm, Bungaree Rec Reserve.			

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Letter from Penny Wang to LLWFCRG, peer review, see below



Phone 1800 187 183
Internet www.lallalwindfarms.com.au

3 April 2018

Mr Mike Stephens
Chair
Lal Lal Wind Farms
Community Reference Group

Re: Response to motion to support Flinders University as choice of peer reviewer of pre construction noise assessment data in March CRG meeting

Dear Mike,

Firstly Mike, I would like to thank you for taking on the role of Chair for the CRG. I understand from Tracey, that by taking on this leadership role these meetings are staying on course. The CRG will certainly benefit from your support and guidance. Please also pass on my sincere thanks to all members of the CRG for their input and staying the course. It must be hard sometimes wearing many hats in the community.

It has been noted in the minutes of the March CRG meeting that a motion was voted on by the CRG to support Flinders University conducting a peer review on the preconstruction noise assessment for Lal Lal Wind Farms.

Lal Lal Wind Farms originally engaged Marshall Day to conduct the pre-construction noise assessment and then engaged Sonus to also assess pre construction noise testing from first principles. As a third step we are committed to engaging a peer review of the pre-construction noise assessment from Sonus. As previously communicated at the previous CRG meeting, this is a serious commitment that the project is making and the pre-construction noise assessment is a very important step in the project's risk assessment process. We must follow appropriate processes and procedures in selecting a noise consultant and a peer reviewer.

I would like to point out that according to the latest Victorian Planning Guidelines, released in November 2017, a peer review needs to be conducted by an EPA accredited auditor. See the reference and link below.

'All noise reports must be accompanied by a peer review from an environmental auditor appointed under Part IXD of the Environment Protection Act 1970 verifying that the report or plan is suitable (p.33, Policy and Planning Guidelines for Development of Wind Energy Facilities in Victoria).'

https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0030/9696/Policy-andPlanning-Guidelines-for-Development-of-Wind-Energy-Facilities-in-Victoria.pdf

I also note that in exercising their functions and duties pursuant to the Environmental Protection Act, EPA accredited auditors owe a primary duty of care to the environment and to the people of Victoria above all others (including their client). This is as outlined in the "Environmental Auditor Guidelines for Conducting Environmental Audits" (Publication 953.2, Aug 2007), which also contain explicit ethical and technical responsibilities of the auditors. In addition, the EPA undertakes a rigorous process in appointing auditors and regulating the conduct of auditors, with suspension or revocation of appointment if breached. The EPA also requires auditors to undertake audits only within their field of expertise and that of their expert support team. At this stage Flinders University is not listed as an accredited EPA peer review auditor. Although we have reached out to Flinders University seeking a proposal, at the direct request of the LLEPA, and the proposal from Flinders University will be assessed amongst other proposals that we receive. We have spoken to a lot of industry specialists in the area of wind farm acoustics. We are currently reviewing proposals from EPA accredited peer review auditors as well as reviewing a proposal from Flinders University. We expect to make a selection of the peer reviewer in the coming week.

Of course the results of the peer review and the pre-construction noise assessment itself will be made available when complete. The findings will be explained in a CRG meeting. Lal Lal EPA will also be invited to this meeting.

Please feel free to circulate this letter around the CRG. I am happy to address any further questions personally, that may arise at the next CRG today.

Yours faithfully

Lal Lal Wind Farms Pty Limited



Penny Wang

Lal Lal Wind Farms Pty Ltd

2) LAL LAL EPA Email, peer review

-----Original Message-----

From: "Mike Stephens" <mstephens@meridian-ag.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 3 April, 2018 5:02pm

To: "Tracey Ward (tracey.ward@lallalwindfarms.com.au) (tracey.ward@lallalwindfarms.com.au)" <tracey.ward@lallalwindfarms.com.au>

Subject: FW: Lal Lal wind facility points

Tracey,

Again my apology for late withdrawal from tonight's meeting. A local drama yesterday, which thankfully ended well, has thrown today into some form of chaos for me.

The major items I would have input to are:

- CRG Terms of reference.
 - o Not much to add to the TOR circulated other than to underline the importance of ensuring that we stick to the decision that everything we do is for the benefit of the communities within the wind farm catchment.
 - o Re terms of CRG members, happy to draw lots to see who is-appointed for one and who for two years.
 - o Happy to make room for some-one else to chair if the CRG so wishes.
 - o Think we should hold a spot for Damien Ryan
 - o Thing we should develop a community fund as was done at Wabra
- Transport route.
 - o Very pleasing that the route has been changed
- Landscaping
 - o Best keep it moving
- The McMahon letter
 - o Can you add John's email to the agenda tonight and table Penny's letter.
 - o I think we need to see what response is received from Flinders.

Again my apology for late withdrawal,

Mike

From: John McMahon [<mailto:johnm@mcmahon.com.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 21 March 2018 10:15 AM

To: Mike Stephens

Subject: RE: Lal Lal wind facility points

Hi Mike,

We're interstate next week & the week after; so, I thought I'd summarise the key points below and an important new point which is of some relevance to the CRG:

- The need for a truly independent, competent peer review of the noise re-assessment outside the "club" of acoustic consultants (which includes Marshall Day and Sonus) – the current EPA list is too limited, and does not include eg. Flinders Uni.
- The desire to get Vestas to a CRG meeting which some LLEPA members can also attend.
- Sonus' presentation of its findings should include LLEPA as well (Macquarie has agreed to this).
- Landscaping (new point for you) – the Permit requires Macquarie to make "the owners of all dwellings within 4km of a turbine where a turbine is visible.....offers to carry out landscape works to mitigate the visual impacts of turbines" and maintain "landscaping for a period of 2 years". All residents who feel they may be entitled to this should chase up Macquarie to get the process started. Some relevant people have already been contacted by Macquarie, but many close neighbours haven't. The process has been a little haphazard to date. This could be a hangover from WestWind's faulty contact list. It's better to start this process sooner rather than later because trees take some time to grow. As you know, species selection will be important to ensure longevity. Ease of watering, mulching, fencing off from stock and fire considerations are also important. Anyone unsure of their location/distance from turbines should invite Macquarie to their homes to show them these details on a map. There is no need to rush the negotiations with Macquarie on this, but rather to ensure that a suitable outcome is negotiated to cover the next 20-30 years of visual impacts.

While we are interstate, we'll have intermittent email and phone connectivity.

Cheers, John

