

Community Consultative Committee (CCC) – Annual Report

CCC project name:	Liverpool Range Wind Farm	Reporting period:	1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024
Independent chairperson:	Michael J. Silver OAM	Proponent contact:	Nick Daly

1. Executive summary / introduction

- The CCC met on two occasions during the period. It noted that the Proponent was moving towards engagement of a construction partner with four Tier One companies having tendered for the project. The Proponent, Tilt Renewables Limited advised that an extensive and detailed selection process will be undertaken with a decision likely in the third quarter of 2024.
- The CCC also received updates on the on the Modification 1 application and processes with particular interest in the progress of the Temporary Workforce Accommodation issue, Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 approvals, public road and intersection treatments, quarries and water matters, Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) tender and biodiversity offsets.
- The CCC also noted significant targeted consultation had been undertaken during the period with an emphasis on drop-in sessions and other activities at Coolah and Cassilis together with engagement of First Nations stakeholders.
- The CCC was also updated on the status of the Benefit Sharing Plan noting that the Proponent intends that the community and councils are no worse off under the Modified Project. It was also noted that the Proponent has agreed to update the Benefit Sharing Plan consistent with the NSW Government's draft Energy Policy Framework.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months:

- **Meetings:** 2

The CCC met on the following occasions:

- 5 October 2023 at Coolah
- 14 March 2024 at Coolah

- **Attendance:** Community Members, Local Government Authorities and Proponent Representative (*Meetings attended/Possible meetings*):

Greg Piper (2/2); Linda Gant (2/2); Ant Martin (1/2); Dr Julia Imrie (0/2); Graeme Booker (0/2); Cr Ron Campbell [Upper Hunter Shire Council] (1/2); Leanne Ryan [Warrumbungle Shire Council] (1/2); Tilt Renewables Representative (2/2).

Mr Graeme Booker's ongoing non-attendance at meetings was noted. The Chair indicated he would ascertain Mr Booker's interest in remaining on the Committee.

- **Site Visits:** No site visits were undertaken.

- **Effectiveness:** The CCC has provided an opportunity for extensive and detailed discussion on the progress of the wind farm project and particularly an examination of the issues of concern to the local communities that will be impacted by the project. It has permitted direct community feedback on a variety of broad community issues such as biodiversity and environmental management, workforce accommodation, road and access issues, concerns over water management and how contributions under a Benefit Sharing Plan will be managed and applied.
- **Additional Consultation:** The CCC did not undertake any additional consultation beyond its general meeting structure.
- **Community Observers:** The CCC had several community observers present by invitation at the two meetings during the period, providing an opportunity for dissemination of information to a wider sector of the community.

3. Key issues

Issue	Actions taken	Next steps
Temporary Workforce Accommodation (TWA) Facility (Cassilis)	Significant concern expressed regarding proposed TWA at Cassilis on land owned by Upper Hunter Shire Council. The proposed TWA was not supported by the Cassilis community.	Monitor the situation. Awaiting Proponent's submission on TWA to DPHI.
Impacts on Ground Water	Concern expressed as to the extent of base line study work associated with impacts on local ground water bores associated with a proposed quarry on Rotherwood Road and the proposed TWA facility at Coolah.	Monitor the information and documentation to be provided by Proponent.
Modification 1	Analysis and providing feedback on Modification 1.	Review of the Proponent's Public Environment Report, the TWA submission and monitoring progress and outcomes of Modification 1 through the assessment and determination process.
Benefit Sharing Plan and the Central West-Orana REZ Grants Program	Assessing proposed changes to Benefit Sharing Plan. Concern expressed regarding management and consultation processes associated with	Monitor Benefit Sharing Plan and the Central West-Orana REZ Community and Employment Benefit program.

	<p>application of Plan. Interest also in how funding under the proposed Central West-Orana REZ Community and Employment Benefit program will be distributed and managed.</p>	
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4. Focus for next 12 months:

- Understanding and assessing the construction program and associated community impacts.
- Consideration of the determination of the Modification 1 proposal and implications for the community.
- Monitoring progress of the Central West-Orana Regional Energy Zone development and implications for the Liverpool Range Wind Farm project and the local community generally.

Name of chairperson:	Michael J. Silver OAM
Date:	28.07.2024