

Action Items

Collector Wind Farm Forum

Date	9 November 2017	Time	6.30pm – Bushranger Hotel, Collector
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Attendees

Greg Smith (GS) Chair	James McKay (JMCK)	Brian McCormack (BMc)
Brian Mor (BM)	John Hoskins (JH)	Richard Stacy (RS)
Martha Truelove (MT)	Tony Walsh (TW)	Mark Fleming (MF) (OEH)
Neil Weston (NW) Ratch Australia	Tom Mitchell (TM) Ratch Australia	Danielle Annells (DA) Ratch Australia

Apologies

Deborah Cameron (DC)	Sharon Swincer (SS)	Gary Poile (GP)
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No.	Action	Responsibility	Due Date
1	Welcome and apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GS explained his role as the Acting Chair in the absence of DC, and welcomed Mayor Brian McCormack to his first committee meeting, given his last minute need to apologise for the last meeting A round of introductions of committee members was undertaken 	Note	
2	Declaration of pecuniary or other interests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MT mentioned the financial benefit she will receive when the project proceeds and NW and TM declared their interests as employees of the Project proponent. 	Note	
3	Confirmation of minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of July 26 Meeting were accepted as an accurate account of the meeting. 	Note	

4	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GS spoke to his draft letter to the Upper Lachlan Shire Council (ULSC) in response to their earlier correspondence raising a number of issues about the role and authority of the CCC, and referred to in the minutes of July 26. • GS explained the reasons for the delay in responding, noting that the passage of events and the fact that the Council is now represented at the CCC changes the context for the correspondence. • After some discussion of the issues including acknowledging the presence of the Mayor in the meeting, it was agreed that the draft letter would be sent to the ULSC to acknowledge their correspondence 	GS	ASAP
5	<p>Project Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NW updated the Committee on developments in the Emerald project being undertaken by Ratch in Queensland, noting that many difficulties have been successfully addressed in that project, which will be up and running in 2018. He noted that many of the same service suppliers engaged by Ratch in that project will also be part of the Collector Wind Farm. • Discussion occurred around the challenging and uncertain nature of the current national power market and the implications of that for Ratch's ability to have a known purchaser of power produced from the Collector project before the project goes ahead. • It was noted that Ratch's Australian operations including the projected Collector Wind farm constitute a very large part of the overall renewable energy plans of their international company. • Whilst there are still many unknowns in the equation, it was also noted that the project approval Ratch currently has for the Collector Project expires in December 2018, and that work will need to commence on the project before then for that agreement to continue. • NW is hopeful that more definitive decisions will be known early in 2018. • Discussion occurred around a range of aspects of the situation, including exploring the timelines that Ratch is facing, discussing the nature of the Council's requirement to build roads in the Shire, and the general nature of renewable power industry in Australia at the moment. 		

<p>6</p>	<p>Community Enhancement Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TM reported on discussions he has been involved in with ULSC, which have resulted in an almost finalised version of the Community Enhancement Fund (CEF) Agreement between the ULSC and Collector Wind Farm Proprietary Limited (Ratch). • TM took the Committee through the key outcomes including that at the point of commissioning, Collector Wind Farm will pay \$240,000 as the first payment into the Community Enhancement Program (CEP), and will then pay the same amount each year (adjusted for CPI) at the commissioning date until the turbine power is turned off and the turbines are dismantled to ground level. • Agreement has been reached that the CEP will operate through a two-part structure involving ULSC and the Collector Fund. • ULSC has agreed to manage its portion of the funds through Council’s usual 355 Committee structure. • Membership of that Committee as set out in the formal agreement includes the Mayor or a Councillor delegate, the General Manager of the Council or a delegate, two community representatives who do not own any of the Collector land, a representative appointed by Ratch and the Committee chair. • Applications for funding will be advertised into a geographic zone still to be finalised (see below.) • The Agreement also contains detailed clauses relating to issues such as how to resolve any dispute over decisions by the 355 Committee, the distribution of funds, the Committee’s processes, procedures such as auditing, and the need for public recognition of the fund. • Discussion followed on various aspects of the negotiations to establish the Draft Agreement, in part referring to items that the CCC had hoped could be included but which are not. • Particular attention was given to discussions about responsibility for paying the operating costs of the proposed Committees and whether this would be done by Ratch or from within the Committee resources. As this had been discussed previously, it was agreed to clarify this from the minutes of previous CCC meetings. • A substantial discussion then occurred around the definition of the geographical area to which the availability of the funds would be advertised, and 	<p>NW</p>	
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	<p>from which applications would be accepted and potentially funded, to be included in the CE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The central issue in this discussion is whether to have a 10 km limit, or a wider 20 km limit. • Inherent in that discussion are a significant number of issues around the purpose of the CEF, the way in which the Wind Farm will potentially impact differently on different local communities, the respective role of the ULSC and the local Collector community in the processes, and the extent to which the ULSC is consistently applying its own Development Control Plan clauses in seeking to introduce the 20 km limit. • The consensus of the discussion that was possible in the available time appeared to favour a 10 km limit, consistent with the ULSC Development Control Plan Clause 3.17. • After some discussion, it was agreed that the Ratch representatives would draft potential causes for both limits, which GS will provide to CCC members by email seeking their responses and comments by November 17. • Once that process was completed, GS will summarise the conversation and formally advise the Ratch representatives of the CCC's preferred position, in the hope they can successfully pursue that in further negotiations with ULSC. 	<p>TM/GS</p> <p>GS</p> <p>TM</p>	
8	<p>Setting up the Collector Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was acknowledged that the meeting was beginning to run over the anticipated finishing time, and that an important conversation about community engagement was listed as the next agenda item, with a person present from Ratch to speak about that issue. • TM gave a brief overview of the complex and potentially challenging issues around setting up and managing the Collector Fund and GS requested that Ratch draft a brief summary of the identified options, to be emailed to CCC members. • This issue will be listed as a high priority item for the next meeting of the CCC. 	<p>TM</p> <p>GS/DC</p>	
9	<p>Community engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collaboration and engagement advisor from Ratch DA briefly outlined her early thinking about planning to engage the community as the windfarm moves into the next stages of its development. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledging the time of the meeting, DA requested the opportunity to communicate directly by email or phone with individual members of the CCC, to gather their thoughts about the issues that need to be addressed during the preconstruction, construction and operational periods of the forthcoming project. • That information will form the basis of a draft plan from Ratch, to be listed for more detailed discussion and development at the next meeting. • Brief discussion indicated that this approach was agreeable to the Committee members. • The point was made that the ULSC also needs to be active in this process of consulting the community. 	DA/CCC Members	
10	<p>Next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next meeting is likely to be held in February 2018, with the final date to be determined. • Agenda items will include a more detailed discussion of the nature of the future Collector Fund, and of the future community engagement plan. • The meeting closed at 8:20 PM. 	NW/DC	

Meeting action items endorsed by:

Signature:

Name: Greg Smith, Independent Chair – KJA

Date: