

Date: 29 August 2022

Venue: Uralla Council Chambers

Meeting Opened: 3.15 PM

Minute Taker: Doug Landfear

Attendance:

Margaret MacDonald-Hill (MMH)	Independent Chair	Steve McCoy (SM)	Community Representative
Chris Page (CP)	Community Representative	Caspar Ozinga (CO)	Community Representative
Robert Crouch (RC)	Uralla Council Deputy Mayor	Susan Armstead (SA)	Community Representative
Doug Landfear (DL)	WWPL Project Director		

Apologies:

Agenda Items	Presenter(s)
1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	MMH
2. Declarations of Interest	All
3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes	All
4. Business Arising	All
5. Correspondence	MMH
6. Reports	DL
7. General Business	All
8. Proposed Next Meeting	MMH

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action & Who
1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	MMH thanked RC for hosting the meeting following the visit to Sapphire Wind Farm, welcomed all participants and noted apologies received. She advised that both Cr Eric Noakes and Damien Timbs had resigned from the Committee, with Walcha Council advising that no replacement representative was intended.	No actions
2. Declarations of Interest	MMH asked for any updates on pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests. No updates were provided.	No actions

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes	<p>CP moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2 May 2022. Seconded by RC.</p>	No actions
4. Business Arising	<p>A site tour of the Sapphire Wind Farm was undertaken prior to the meeting. Attendees agreed it was a worthwhile experience, noting that it was a pity the timing didn't allow a better attendance. MMH, CP and RC thanked DL for organising the day.</p>	No actions
5. Correspondence	<p>MMH noted that correspondence was received in relation to the community meeting to be held in Walcha on 31 August 2022. CP spoke about the EnergyCo presentation and the mixed sentiments about the many proposed renewable energy developments in the Walcha area. MMH confirmed email resignations received on 17 August 2022 from two members of the CCC.</p>	No actions
6. Reports	<p>DL described the Sapphire Wind Farm project and the differences with the turbines proposed for the Winterbourne project.</p> <p>DL presented information from the 2022 Integrated System Plan (ISP) recently released by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and noted that the report forecasts a significant requirement for new renewable energy capacity to replace legacy generation assets.</p> <p>DL described the structure of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Winterbourne project and noted that the EIS is currently being finalised. CP asked whether there will be an executive summary to the report. DL noted that the EIS will contain a summary report as well as detailed assessments for each topic which will be presented as appendices to the summary report. DL noted that the EIS has been structured to meet the guidelines and requirements of the State and Federal Governments for wind energy and large infrastructure projects.</p> <p>DL described the State Significant Development (SSD) process and expected timing for submission of the EIS, public exhibition of the EIS, and the Submissions Report which follows the public exhibition. CP asked if hard copies of the report would be available. DL noted that hard copies would be provided, probably in the Walcha Council Chambers and the Walcha Library, and that the report would also be available online on the</p>	No actions

	<p>Winterbourne website as well as the Department of Planning and Environment website. RC mentioned that Uralla Council lodged a submission for another wind farm and the Council commented on the topics of water, gravel and waste.</p> <p>DL described the process for making Submissions to the EIS during the exhibition period.</p>	
7. General Business	<p>CP asked if there will be further information provided about the EIS. DL noted a Community Information Session will be held in Walcha during public exhibition of the EIS.</p>	No actions
8. Next Meeting	<p>MMH referred to DL's presentation and the anticipated lodgement of the EIS, stating it would be unlikely the Committee would meet again prior to lodgement of the EIS. Once the EIS had entered the DPE portal for assessment, should the project be approved, it would transition to a new stage of development and it would be up to the Department of Planning and Environment to decide if a new committee was required. The Guidelines for State Significant Development, under which the committees operate, are currently under review.</p>	MMH to advise on DPE decision on role of current CCC.
Meeting close	<p>MMH thanked all participants for their attendance and closed the meeting.</p>	

Meeting closed at 3:51 PM



Winterbourne Wind



Community Consultative Committee

Meeting #7

29 August 2022

Presented By:
Doug Landfear - Project Director

Topics

- Wind Farm Visit
 - AEMO ISP
 - Environmental Impact Statement
 - SSD Process and Expected Timing
 - Submissions
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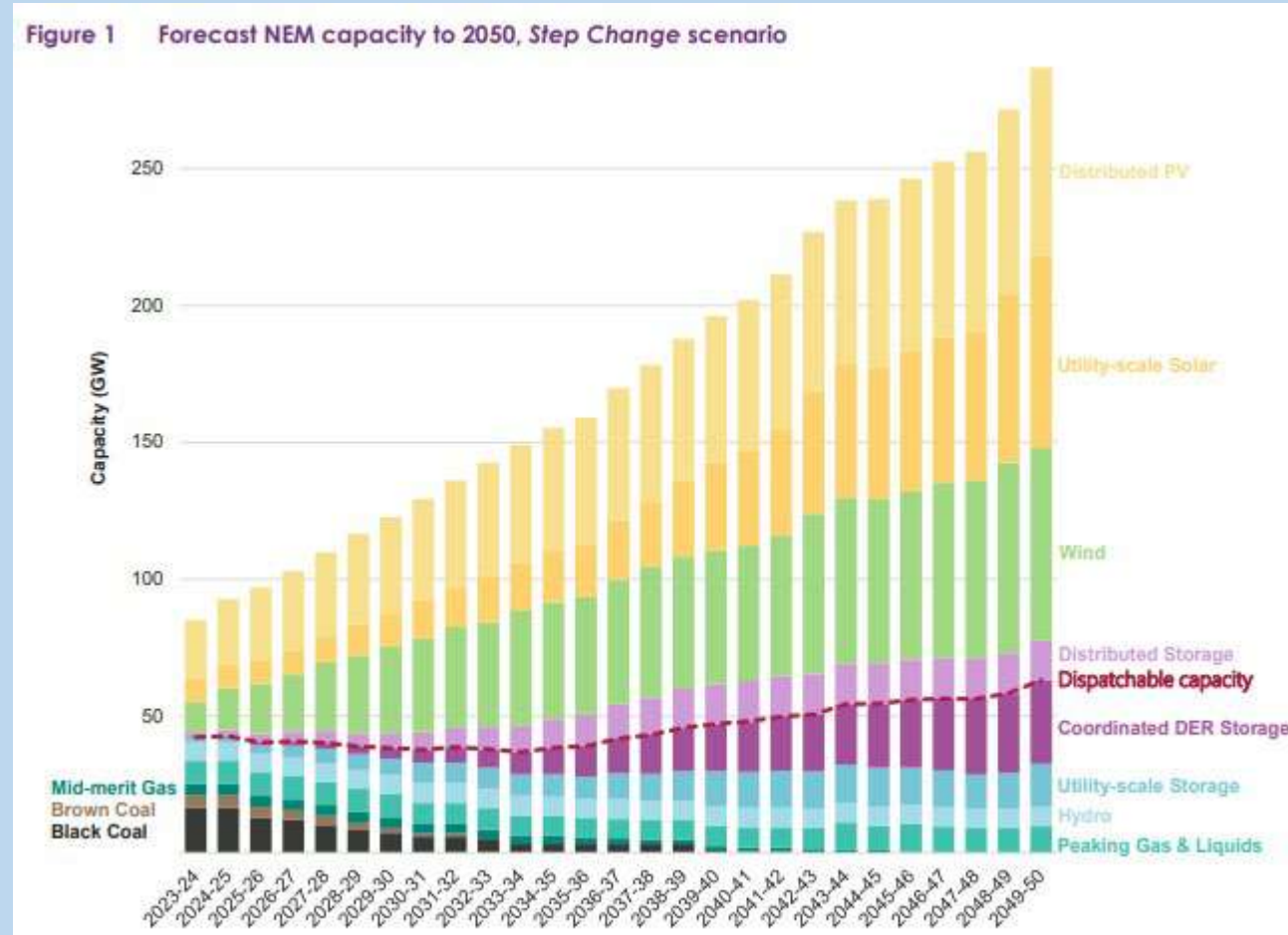
Wind Farm Visit

- Visit to Sapphire Wind Farm near Glen Innes, NSW as requested by CCC members during previous meetings.
- Sapphire Wind Farm is owned by CWP Renewables
- 270MW wind farm comprising 75 x V126-3.6MW turbines
- Estimated annual generation of 764 GWh
- Project completed in November 2018
- Vestas provides maintenance and operations services to the facility



AEMO Integrated System Plan

- The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) released its 2022 Integrated System Plan (ISP) in late June.
- The report noted that the National Electricity Market (NEM) is supporting a once-in-a-century transformation in the way electricity is generated and consumed, with legacy generation assets being replaced with low-cost renewables.
- The report forecasts a nine-fold increase in utility-scale wind and solar capacity to meet increased demand as coal assets retire and as homes, vehicles and industrial applications switch to electricity.
- AEMO forecasts that 60% of coal-fired generation capacity will be withdrawn from the market by 2030, and that wind/solar capacity needs to triple in the same timeframe.
- The report also notes that more than 10,000 km of new transmission lines are required to connect geographically and technologically diverse, low-cost generation with the consumers who rely on it.



Source: 2022 Integrated System Plan (AEMO, June 2022).

Environmental Impact Statement

- The focus of project development since the May 2022 meeting has been to complete a draft of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which will support the project development application.
- The EIS will include summary chapters and detailed assessments of the following:
 - Biodiversity Assessment
 - Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment
 - Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
 - Traffic Impact Assessment
 - Aviation Impact Assessment
 - Bushfire Assessment
 - Hazards Analysis
 - Electromagnetic Interference Assessment
 - Cultural Heritage Assessment
 - Soils and Water Assessment
 - Flood Assessment
 - Social Impact Assessment
 - Capital Investment Value
 - Mitigation and Management Measures
- We have completed a draft of the EIS and are now reviewing the document with the goal of lodging the development application for the project in October 2022.



Winterbourne Wind Farm

Environmental Impact Statement

14 July 2022

Project No.: 0526676

SSD Process and Expected Timing

Expected Timing:
October 2022

Expected Timing:
November 2022

Expected Timing:
Early 2023

1



Early Consultation

Prior to lodging a development application (DA) for an SSD project, the applicant must consult with the Department. Following consultation, the Planning Secretary will issue the environmental assessment requirements (SEARs) for the project.

The SEARs will identify the information that must be included in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project and the community engagement that must be undertaken.

2



Prepare EIS

The applicant must prepare the EIS in accordance with the SEARs.

The purpose of the EIS is to assess the economic, environmental and social impacts of the project and help the community, government agencies and the consent of authority to make informed submissions or decisions on the merits of the project.

3



Exhibit DA

All SSD DAs must be exhibited for at least 28 days.

This acknowledges the importance of community participation in the SSD process and gives the community a right to have a say on these projects before a final decision is made.

4



Respond to submissions

After exhibition, the Department will publish all submission and ask the applicant to prepare a Submissions Report.

The purpose of the Submissions Report is to give the applicant a chance to respond to the issues raised in submissions and help the consent authority evaluate the merits of the DA.

5



Assess DA

After publishing the Submission Report, the Department will assess the merits of the DA in accordance and prepare an Assessment Report.

This may include further community engagement, requesting additional information from the applicant, seeking advice from Government agencies and independent experts and preparing recommended conditions of consent.

6



Determine DA

The independent Planning Commission or a delegate of the Minister of Planning will be the consent authority for the DA.

They must evaluate the merits of the DA against the matters in section 4.15 of the EP&A Act and may approve the DA (subject to modifications or conditions) or refuse it.

Submissions

- During the exhibition period, the public can make submissions in writing about the project. Submissions can be made in support of the project, as objections to the project, or as general comments about the project.
- Submissions must be made in writing and can either be submitted online via the NSW planning portal or by written letter.
- To make an online submission, you must first establish an account. You will be required to enter your full name, an email address, and a password. An email will be sent to confirm your new account. A link for establishing an account is here: <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/have-your-say>
- Submissions must be made before the close date of the exhibition period and must include:
 - Your name and address
 - Disclosure of political donations
 - View of the project (support, object, comments)
 - Commentary about the project
 - Department of Planning standard declaration
- Submissions will be collected by DPE and then turned over to the proponent to consider and address in a formal Submissions Report.

Thank You



**Winterbourne
Wind**

