

Forest Wind Community Reference Group Meeting #1

Minutes of Meeting

Date: Thursday, 10 September 2020

Time: 4.30pm – 6:20pm

Location: Poona Centennial Hall

Attendees

FWCRG Independent Chair	Greig Bolderrow
FWCRG Members:	Mark Lourigan, Economic Development Manager, Fraser Coast Regional Council (FCRC) Tracey Genrich, Community Development Manager, Fraser Coast Regional Council (FCRC) Mike Moller, Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council (WBEC) Rodney Lamprey Ivor Powis Andrea Powis Kerry Fullarton Paul Downman Enid North Greg North
FW Project Representatives:	Jane Daniels Sandy Vigar Andrea McIntosh

Agenda items

Item
1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks, introductions Welcome to Community Reference Group members and Project representatives. Acknowledgement of country: I would like to begin by acknowledging the Butchulla people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects to their Elders past and present. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today

Item

Members' short introduction to each member and connection/relationship to Wind farm project and how position will benefit the Reference Group/ community.

FWCRG Member	Summary introduction and connection/relationship to Project
Greig Bolderrow	Long-time local resident; interested in social, economic and environmental development of the region.
Andrea Powis	Poona resident; moved to area for pristine and beautiful environment; maintain balance between economic, social and environment impacts, joined Committee to understand Project; provide Poona with a voice.
Ivor Powis	Poona resident; joined Committee to understand impacts both positive and negative; benefits for the small coastal communities.
Mark Lourigan	Joined Committee in FCRC capacity in economic development branch; interested in how project fits council's sustainability theme; economic and local business opportunities.
Kerry Fullarton	Rainbow Beach resident. Interested in energy sector/renewables and tourism aspect of the Project.
Rodney Lamprey	Tuan resident; representing another 30 residents. Joined Committee to act as facilitator for local community, look after interests of why people moved here. Concerns are health impacts, property value impacts, infrasound impacts.
Mike Moller	WBBEC representative, Advocate for the environment; Interested in Project to make sure it is done sustainably and does not cause negative impacts.
Paul Downman	Tin Can Bay resident, joined Committee to keep people in community informed.
Enid North	Talegalla Weir resident; Joined Committee to inform local community; interested in environmental impacts.
Greg North	Talegalla Weir resident; interested in environmental impacts, renewable energy.
Tracey Genrich	Joined Committee from FCRC perspective, understanding.

2 Apologies/ attendance - Nil

3 Declaration of pecuniary or other interests

Form issued for Members

Action: members to return signed copy prior to or at next meeting.

4 Minutes of previous meeting – N/A

5 Business arising from the minutes – N/A

6 Adjourned business – N/A

7 General business

a. Confirm objectives of the CRG

The purpose of the FWCRG is to provide a forum for discussion between the Forest Wind Project Team and representatives of the community, stakeholder groups and the local councils on issues directly relating to Forest Wind.

Item

Specifically, the purpose of the FWCRG is to:

- Establish good working relationships and promote information sharing between FWCRG, local community, local councils, and stakeholder groups.
- Allow the Forest Wind Project Team to keep the community informed about Forest Wind, seek community views and respond to matters raised by the community.
- Allow community members to seek information from the Forest Wind Project Team and give feedback on Forest Wind to assist with the delivery of balanced social, environmental and economic outcomes for the community.
- To perform an advisory and consultative role, rather than regulatory body.

<p>Motion: the Objectives of the CRG be agreed.</p> <p>Motion Carried: that the Objectives of the CRG, as outlined in Item 7 General business, are agreed.</p>	<p>Motion: K. Fullarton</p> <p>Second: P. Downman</p>
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b. Project updates – FW Project Team

'Forest Wind Project Overview' was tabled at the meeting, refer attached.

Jane Daniels (FW Project Team) provided an overview of the project and distributed a copy of the presentation.

The following provides a summary of questions from the FWCRG Members arising from the Project Overview, and the responses given by FWH Project Representatives.

Question	FW Project Team Response
When will the decision be made on EPBC? (R. Lamprey)	Process and timeframe outlined. FWH is currently preparing a response to Information Request and will inform CRG of the public consultation period.
How big will the first stage be; which area of the plantation will construction start within; when will geotechnical work start? (R. Lamprey)	First stage and construction start area is yet to be finalised. Geotechnical works expected to commence soon. Details of Stage 1 will be presented to FWCRG when finalised.
What is Forest Wind Holdings' role on the FWCRG (I. Powis)	Members of the Forest Wind team are participating in the meetings as Project representatives, providing information to and answering questions relating to the Project raised by members of the FWCRG, and to communicate back issues and suggestions to the Proponent.
FWH have stated that if TV reception deteriorates as a result of the Project, remediation will be required. (R. Lamprey)	Correct, as stated in the Development Permit.
Will there be any effects on Broadband connection? (I. Powis)	<u>Action: FW Team to report back at next meeting</u>

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Is FWH going to the FCRC Jobs Expo? (M. Lourigan)	<u>Action: FW Team to explore and report back at next meeting</u>
Are there job targets for Traditional Owners?	FW is working with Butchulla and Kabi Kabi to resolve Indigenous Land Use Agreements; employment targets will form part of these.
What is the target for training; apprenticeships? (T. Genrich)	FW is working with wide range of stakeholders to develop workforce development strategy, including training and apprenticeship opportunities.
How much of wind farm is in FCRC and within Gympie Council? (M. Lourigan)	Approximately 2/3 is in Fraser Coast Regional Council Area; 1/3 in Gympie Regional Council area.

c. Communication protocols

- Members of the FWCRG agreed to
 1. Use email as the preferred method of communication between members
 2. Establish a fwcrg@forestwind.com.au email address for the public to send correspondence to the FWCRG.
- Specific complaints should be referred directly to Forest Wind for handling
- Methods for seeking community feedback were discussed. Local community facebook pages is one avenue. Other methods to be further discussed at next meeting.
- Members to nominate items to be included on the agenda two weeks prior to next meeting
- Minutes of Meeting will be reviewed and endorsed at next meeting, and Final Minutes will be published on the Forest Wind website

Action: Forest Wind Team to establish fwcrg@forestwind.com.au

Action: Methods for seeking community feedback to be discussed at next meeting.

8 Community feedback / areas of interest from members of CRG

a) Community consultation prior to announcement of the Project in December 2019

In response to concern raised by CRG members, Jane Daniels (FW) explained that given the project is proposed to be located on State land, the land owner (State government) required that Forest Wind demonstrate technical, commercial, financial, and practical feasibility before the project was announced by the State so as to not raise community expectations. She noted that FW recognises that community members feel that there was a lack of consultation before the project received planning approval. Jane also explained that there is considerable time before construction begins during which FW can conduct community engagement, build understanding of the project, address concerns and impacts and maximise positive benefits for the community. The Community Reference Group is an important part of this engagement process.

The response was noted by the FWCRG.

Item

Andrea Powis made the following comments for noting in the minutes.

Problems arise where projects like this situation creates aggro from the community when government just goes ahead without engaging with the community. Engagement from the start is proven to be better; if government was upfront from the start, everything would be smoother".

- b) What are the community benefits?

Jane described the estimated jobs during construction and operations and the contracting opportunities available to local businesses.

Jane also described how FW will develop a community partnerships strategy to deliver lasting community benefits to the communities surrounding Forest Wind. This will address priority areas and needs such as, for example, environment, skills creation, fire management. The CRG will be consulted in the development of this strategy.

The CRG members asked for more specific and detailed information on job estimates and how these were determined and whether the Council sees these as being reasonable and achievable.

Action: FW to provide information on job estimates, job areas and contracting opportunities at next meeting.

- c) Noise and health impacts – **due to time limitations this item is carried forward to next meeting of the FWCRG.**
- d) Other issues – **carried forward to next meeting of the FWCRG.**

9 **Next meeting date and location** – within 2 months, a Wednesday (preferred), Boonooroo
Proposed date: 11th November, Boonooroo Community Hall

10 **Meeting closed** – 6:20PM

Other notes or information