

## Tarong West Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee

### Minute of Meeting Minutes no 3

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Venue: Ironpot Farmers Hall

#### Attendees:

Debbie Jackson, CCC Member

Kathy McMurdy, CCC Member

Brenton Opperman, CCC Member

William McGrane, RES

Keith Campbell, Independent Chair

Alice Greenup, CCC Member

Tanya Jackson, RES

Scott Henschen, CCC Member

Corne Engelbrecht, WGA

Carol Weekes, Secretary

#### 1. Welcome:

Keith Campbell opened the meeting at 10.05am.

Keith welcomed the attendees

William McGrane, RES, introduced Corne` Engelbrecht, Principal Hydrogeologist, Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec (WGA) Engineers. Corne` has been working with Vestas and on the desktop reporting for water sourcing for this project for 18 months and will provide a presentation to the meeting.

#### 2. Apologies: Toby Coates, RES; Carolyn Stone, CCC Member; Cr Ros Heit, Div 6, SBRC; Annie McGill, CCC Member

#### 3. Conflicts of Interest: Nil declared

#### 4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 2025

Cr Ros Heit sought an Amendment to Item 5b. of the Previous Minutes of the meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025. Following reference to Item 5b and to Cr Heit's suggested wording for Item 5b, the CCC resolved to let the original wording stand.

**Resolution:** *The Minutes of Meeting No 2 held on 3rd June 2025 be accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting.*

**Moved:** Scott Henschen

**Seconded:** Deb Jackson

**Carried**

#### 5. Corne` Engelbrecht, Principal Hydrogeologist, Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec (WGA) Engineers.

Corne` provided all present with a copy of his presentation titled "*Tarong West Wind Farm- Desktop Water Sourcing Study*" (see Attachment 1)

##### Key points:

- The Purpose of the desk top exercise was to identify potential water sources for construction activities at the project site, and included reviewing both surface and groundwater availability.
- Geology is the main driver for sourcing water, for example, water drainage/ seepage, bores, groundwater levels, quality of water and extraction methods

- High level analytical models are applied using publicly available data
- The Area of impact is mapped and the potential effects on local water resources and availability are taken into consideration
- The preferred water source for this project is bores located in low-lying areas close to batch plants and wash down areas to minimise pumping
- Water feeder zones and granite fractures, potential deeper sources are explored to find a potential supply

**CCC member feedback/ queries:**

- When tapping into dry land areas there's the potential to disrupt a lifetime of work of locals to ensure they have adequate access to water for their properties and businesses. The bores are known to run dry and this could be seriously detrimental to local production and livelihoods.
- Using surface water will lower the water table, is not sustainable long term and cannot be used without detrimentally impacting local supply.
- It is locally known that there is no water in the granite areas.
- The volume of water required to maintain stock, including 2 feedlots in the area (approx. 30,000 head of cattle) plus cropping is significant.
- Did the desktop exercise calculation include water for dust suppression? (30,000 litres a day was needed by Wambo Wind Farm).
- CCC previously requested an address to provide information about unlicensed bores, the address was never provided and then it became apparent that the Report had been completed without that information.
- Is the data being used for the Desktop Audit, up to date?
- On the map provided, 14 of the identified bores are on the project site and 2 are sitting on the edge of the Project site.
- Some bores and surface water are salty and the degree of saltiness varies across the area.
- Currently there is no monitoring of spring fed water to determine levels/ flows.
- Is the intention still to use water from the project site only?
- If water is sourced onsite, how is it audited to establish levels and impacts?
- If water needs to be trucked in, this further exacerbates the traffic safety, road condition concerns and inflates project costs.
- Why has the water supply not been sorted before now when construction is almost ready to commence?
- What is Option B should the final report identify that there is insufficient water available on the project site?
- There is a need to more accurately capture current total demand for water in the area, including
  - Feedlots
  - Stock
  - Agriculture/ irrigation
  - Dust suppression
  - Domestic use
  - Fire control, and
  - Project demand

**RES:**

- The delay in clarifying and establishing water supply has been due to contractual processes. The EPC Contractor (Vestas) needed to be in place, as did their lead subcontractors.

- Exploratory work to locate water on site is still to occur.
- If insufficient water is available on site, sources external to the Project site will be considered. This option will be outlined in an updated Water Sourcing Study.

**Chair:**

- By 2<sup>nd</sup> December meeting, CCC expectations include:
  - Consultation will have occurred with local property owners to garner local knowledge.
  - Water Sourcing Study clarified to include:
    - Details regarding current local water use for agricultural operations (litres/month currently required to support ag purposes)
    - Assurances that water drawing will be monitored
    - Consideration of possible impacts on local agribusinesses, and
    - If it is identified that there is a deficiency in supply, an explanation about how that will be addressed?
    - A summary of the ground-truthing work required to confirm the presence of suitable groundwater on the Project site.

**Action:** RES will provide an updated Water Sourcing Study containing the above clarifications to respond to concerns raised by CCC members

**Action:** RES to share slides from Corne's presentation

**6. Scott Henschen (Local Fire Warden)** provided a briefing regarding site Fire Management/Suppression discussions with Matt Crisafio (RES) and Rob Janssen (Land and Environment Consultants):

- Each turbine has an inbuilt fire suppression system which sprays retardant liquid that will turn to gas when a certain temperature is reached to ensure threat of fire is quickly extinguished
- Turbines are subject to monthly inspections.
- The information provided from Rob Janssen of Land and Environment Consultants increased confidence in general fire safety for the project, especially regarding progression of fire suppression technology in turbines including those chosen for the project.

**7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes:**

**Item 5a. EPBC (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation)**

**Public response documents:**

RES advised that the Department responsible for assessment has advised that the confirmation that the PER is adequate and ready to enter the Public Comment period is imminent. Upon receipt it will be posted in several public forums including the RES website, a Newsletter emailed to the Project mailing list, Southburnett.com online, the Courier Mail, the Australian as well as hard copies being available at the SBRC chambers and Kingaroy Library. Notification of when this occurs will be provided to CCC members.

CCC / the public can comment but must do so within the criteria and timeframes listed for the feedback to be accepted/ considered.

**CCC Member Response:**

- Is the Project cost still \$1.5 billion and isn't that likely to blow out prior to purchase by the new operator?
- Stanwell have indicated that they are waiting on the EPBC confirmation to bid to operate the Wind Farm.

- CCC members indicated that Stanwell (vs private operator) would be their preferred provider and would like to demonstrate/ articulate their support for the Stanwell bid.

**Action:** Prepare a letter to David Janetzki MP, Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership, and Ros Bates MP, Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, and local member Deb Frecklington, MP, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity stating intent, Stanwell attributes (why the CCC would prefer Stanwell as the Operator) and seeking a delegation to discuss the matter.

#### **Item 5 b. Outcomes of investigation into road transport options**

- Refer to RES Memo 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025 (Attachment 2)

#### **RES**

- Thank you to members for their valuable feedback regarding bus routes. RES has since started to reach out to schools local to the Project to check that all possibly affected routes will be included.
- The TIA has been sent to TMR, SBRC and WDRC for their review, this is ongoing.
- The Traffic Management Plan detailing mitigation processes, including piloting of OS vehicles, using only approved roads, and the use of in vehicle monitoring systems.
- Key roads are Mannuam, Ironpot and Jumma Roads.
- Mannuam North Road remains under consideration.
- The Road Infrastructure Agreement provides the basis of design upgrades (see page 9 RES Memo), which roads can and can't be used, remediation needed and what triggers remediation.
- Mannuam Road upgrade will likely be based on formation of 8.5m width, with 6.5m sealed and 1m unsealed shoulder.
- The civil contractors need to conduct on-site investigations to determine what quarry materials they can source from the site.
- Whilst all possible materials will be sourced on site, it is unlikely that all materials will be available and some will need to be brought in from external sources.

#### **CCC Members:**

- Traffic volume data (page 5) is 2022 data and out of date. 25 trucks a day go to the Wambo Wind Farm, in addition to trucks from the quarries, so this number of vehicles has significantly increased from 10 per day. This needs to be raised with SBRC.
- Along with in vehicle monitoring systems, would it be possible for vehicles to be also fitted with dash cams? (RES will ask the question however the installation of these devices is only as good as the monitoring system implemented to accompany it).
- In TIA Driver Conduct 4.21 Compression breaking should not be used .... (delete wording "residential areas").
- Can accommodation camp traffic be considered in the TMP?
- Is there any plan to upgrade the Ironpot Road to Bunya Highway section? (RES advised that no upgrades are planned).

**Action:** RES to make sure suggested changes to TMP are considered

**Action:** Dust monitoring: RES to share a figure that shows measurement location site ID's on a map. Combining information of existing map figure and site ID table into one figure.

**8. Tarong West Wind Farm Community Benefits Presentation: Tanya Jackson (Attachment 3)**

- \$218,000 is available over 5 years for projects that can be delivered in a variety of ways, for example, annual allocation for a 5 year project, or individual projects adding to that value
- Can be managed by a partner organisation, for example Red Earth, or CCC Member grants committee via RES or Council.
- CCC members have a major role in allocating the funds so need to provide input into how it is best managed to serve your community.
- This will commence when construction gets underway.

**CCC Members:**

- Several suggestions for use of the funds were discussed and included, transfer stations, wild dog baiting program, mobile tower,
- Land rates paid to Council will be in excess of \$600,000 so Council responsibilities should not be taken into consideration in these determinations.
- Several options were discussed for fund management, for example, Stanwell, Red Earth (management fees), Council (held in trust and no fees)
- Consideration should be given to planning for 5 years, 10 years and 30 years (that is, the life of the project). To be held in February 2026.

**Action:** *Engage a facilitator to assist CCC manage the development of the process. Alice will contact Peak Performance to determine if they may be interested and seek a quote if they are. (Tanya indicated RES would meet reasonable associated costs). CCC members to further discuss most appropriate facilitator in advance of next CCC meeting.*

**Action:** *RES to share slides from Tanya's presentation*

**Neighbourhood Scheme:**

RES:

- Scheme includes 3 categories based on distance from nearest turbines to property boundary (category 1) or dwelling (category 2 and 3)
- Letters have been sent to possible recipients based on RES' desktop evaluation
- Newsletter to be sent during September/October to project mailing list informing all that the portal exists and requesting expressions of interest.
- All terms are in the link sent to potential recipients

**Action:** *RES to send newsletter before mid October with details on Neighbour Shared Benefit Scheme*

**9. Criteria for success:**

**Tanya Jackson via email:** *"Members to review the CCC Terms of Reference prior to task. Use the SMART Goals Framework to guide goal setting. Aim to set 2 – 3 goals maximum."*

Due to time constraints this matter was deferred to a later meeting.

**10. Address anomaly of Clause 6 Fees and Expenses**

RES advised that this will be addressed through an impost system.

**11. Connectivity issue**

RES advised that they will investigate the viability of enhancing connectivity in the area as a part of developing their onsite communications systems.

**12. Meetings:**

**Next Meeting: 9am Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025. Venue: Kumbia Hall**

Meetings for 2026: 3 March 2026; 2 June 2026; 1 September 2026 and 1 December 2026

**13.Meeting closed at 1.10pm.**

Keith thanked Corne` for his presentation and thanked CCC members for their time and contribution.

**Attachments:**

1. WGA Presentation
2. RES Memo issued 22 August 2025
3. Tarong West Wind Farm RES Actions and Responses from 24 July 2025 Meeting at the Ironpot Hall 22 August 2025
4. Tarong West Wind Farm Community Benefits Presentation