Delburn Wind Farm - Community Consultative Committee

Thursday, 16 November 2023

MCDI Co-Space, 96 Ridgway, Mirboo North

Item	Details	Who
1	Procedural Matters: Meeting Open: 6.00 pm Chair: Barry Rogers OSMI Project Team members: Elizabeth Radcliffe OSMI, Anne Forbes Apologies Actions arising	Chair Anne
	Acknowledgment of Traditional Custodians	Chair
	Conflict and Perceived Conflict of Interest	All
2	Participant feedback & community chats Assistance Questions	Members
3	Terms of Reference updates	Chair Members
4	Topics of Interest for future meetings	Chair Members
5	Fire Risk Mitigation Presentation	Liz
6	Questions & Agenda Items	Chair
8	Meeting Closure: Meeting Close: 7.30pm Next Meeting: TBD Venue: MCDI Co Space, 96 Ridgway, Mirboo North.	Chair

Delburn Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee Minutes - Meeting #2

Thursday 16 November 2023
MCDI Board Room, Mirboo North
6 - 7.30pm

Attendees:

- Barry Rogers (Chair)
- Anne Forbes (Secretariat/OSMI)
- Sam Maynard
- Tony Wolfe - Online
- Trevor Hoare
- Kristine Good
- Chris Milne
- Michelle Slater
- Wendy Farmer
- Lorraine Bull
- Elizabeth Radcliffe (OSMI)
- Eleanor Barnes (Cubico)

Apologies: Matt Curtain, Taylah Ling (new CCC member)

Minutes

1. Procedural Matters

Chair: Acknowledgement of Country

Chair: Introductions

Previous actions arising:

I. Committee members to send ideas about topics they would like covered at future Committee meetings to cscc@delburnwindfarm.com.au Action: Complete.

II. Committee members to review the Terms of Reference (ToR) and the Code of Conduct and forward any suggested amendments to the chair via cscc@delburnwindfarm.com.au
Action: Complete.

III. All committee members requested to advise Anne Forbes asap if they were not comfortable with their name being shared with the community as part of their role in the CCC. Action: Complete.

Conflicts and Perceived Conflict of Interest

CCC member Lisa Bigham resigned due to a conflict of interest. Lisa works for Delta Group who have expressed an interest in working on the Delburn Wind Farm construction.

2. Participant feedback & community chats

CCC members shared feedback, queries and concerns they received from residents:

- Two residents asked about the potential bushfire risk from the wind farm
- A couple of residents queried why there is opposition to the wind farm development now that the court case is complete, and the wind farm is going ahead?
- One resident asked about recycling the turbine blades and how this can happen?
- A couple of people asked where the project is up to?
- One CCC member received a direct email from a resident who outlined their opposition to the wind farm
- A CCC member was asked about her role in the committee and the amount of time she has lived in her township
- Several residents expressed support for the wind farm and said they were not prepared to speak up previously as they did not feel comfortable
- One resident was concerned about the complaints process eg. If the trucks are noisy and putting up dust, who do they contact to report an issue?
- One community member expressed a dislike of the project and concern about the risk of bushfires.

The Chair clarified the process of how members came to join the CCC. People living around the wind farm site were invited to express an interest in joining the CCC. This is a volunteer role where members are requested to adhere to the Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest procedures.

CCC members are not required to represent a specific location or town. If they reside in a township, this does not mean they can only talk to people from that area. Members are open to talking about the wind farm with anyone in any location. There is no pre-requisite for a CCC member to have lived in a certain location for a set number of years to be a member of the CCC.

CCC members are requested to advise the DWF project team of current and emerging issues relating to the project from a community perspective. They can advise on how to best disseminate information using existing community networks and share information between the committee and the local community.

If a CCC member is not comfortable talking with an individual community member, they can refer this to the Community Engagement Manger to follow up.

Action: Address the questions and answers discussed by the CCC in the Q&A section of the website and in e-News updates.

3. Fire Risk Mitigation Presentation

Elizabeth Radcliffe presented a PowerPoint presentation on fire risk mitigation. The slides will be provided along with the meeting minutes.

The Victorian Emergency Management priorities declare the protection and preservation of life and relief of suffering is the highest priority in any bushfire or emergency response.

Critical infrastructure in the area is not the wind farm, it is the 500KV line between the Latrobe Valley and Melbourne. The Emergency Management Victoria response priorities are to protect people first, then the 5000KV electricity lines, followed by the wind farm infrastructure.

We have hard wired and designed the wind farm to mitigate and minimise the bushfire risks. Transmission cables pose an ignition risk, so they are all placed underground except for 100 metres from the terminal station to the main transmission line.

All 33 wind turbines will have fire suppression systems built into the nacelle, which is not an industry standard. Each turbine will have an in-built smoke, fire detection and suppression system that will shut down operations automatically if a fire starts.

We are often asked if aerial firebombing can still happen around the wind turbine? The answer is yes. Fire bombers work on visual flight rules, so if there is smoke everywhere and they can't see the ground they will not fly anyway.

If there is a fire, the wind farm operations staff can quickly shut the turbines down and park them in a 'Y' position with the blade pointing straight down the turbine tower towards the ground. The blades can be turned around or placed in a ýor' position that is in line with fire suppression aerial fire-fighting requirements.

The minimum requirement from CFA's perspective is that the wind turbines must be 300 metres apart. The Delburn Wind Farm has spaced turbines at a minimum of 600 metres apart, with many a lot further apart than that. The aerial fire-bombing pilots have advised the turbines are not an issue for them to fly the planes.

Pano AI Fire Detection Technology

In a first for Australia and the wind farm industry, we have deployed Pano AI camera technology to monitor the wind farm site and HVP plantation to provide an additional fire detection capability.

As part of a pilot program, a Pano AI camera has been deployed to capture ultra-high-definition images and monitor the HVP planations and Delburn Wind Farm site. The camera captures 360-degree views over the plantation every minute, operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week. On a clear day, the cameras can monitor up to 30 kilometres away including the Hazelwood mine site.

The Pano AI cameras detect smoke and fire. When detected, the information is then validated by a staff member in the Pano Intelligence control centre. The staff member then notifies local emergency services and the wind farm staff. The cameras monitor the landscape 24/7 and any detection is actioned within a matter of minutes. If a fire is confirmed, an alert is then sent to fire response agencies and wind farm staff.

This is a pilot program to test the Pano AI technology over the 2023/24 summer and is being undertaken in collaboration with CFA, FFMV and HVP.

The Pano AI system is designed to detect and locate fires early when they are small and enable response teams to extinguish them before they can grow into a large and dangerous fire that could cause serious damage.

This technology will assist emergency services to detect fires faster and more accurately and respond more quickly. Getting to the fire quickly and suppressing it is the main aim, and minute by minute updates can be provided to fire fighters to support their response. All together this increases the safety for both the first responders and surrounding communities.

4. Redevelopment of Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Chair did a redraft of the ToR and it was agreed this document would be emailed to CCC members for their input and feedback. Members are requested to "Reply all – to state I have reviewed this." This will be discussed at the February CCC meeting.

5. Topics of Interest for future meetings

This topic was not covered due to a lack of time. This will be covered at the next meeting. Members were requested to send any agenda items to Anne Forbes before the February 2024 meeting.

6. Meeting Closure: 7:30PM

The next meeting will be held on 15 February, 2024 from 6-7.30pm at MCDI Co Space, 96 Ridgway, Mirboo North. Members are requested to please RSVP to Anne Forbes.

Actions arising

- All CCC members are requested to advise of any membership groups they are part of and inform Anne Forbes so she can update the conflicts register.
- Action: Project team to address the questions and answers discussed by the CCC in the Q&A section of the website and in e-News updates.

Delburn Wind Farm - Fire prevention & mitigation

Community Consultative Committee Meeting #2 16 Nov 2023

Current environment

- The Delburn Wind Farm site is within a Bushfire Management Overlay and Bushfire Prone Area
- Fires in 1898, 2009 and 2014 impacted the wind farm footprint and surrounding communities
- The plantation may be at risk from fires that start outside the site from:
  - An active fire in bush to the South-West
  - Ember attacks from fires to the North and North-West

Fire in Latrobe municipality

- Around 96% of bushfires occur in scrub, bush and grass land
- Approx. half are less than one hectare in size
- 22% of fire ignition sources are unknown
- Where known, the top three ignition factors were:
  - 32.7% Deliberately lit or suspicious fires
  - 9.4% Unattended or inadequately controlled fires in the open
  - 6.7% Fuel reduction burns on private land

Fire ignitions in Latrobe City 2010-2017 (CFA)

Will the wind farm increase fire risk?

- Fire Risk Consultants (FRC) prepared a Bushfire Risk Assessment of the wind farm
- During construction, risks include:
  - Ignition sources such as hot works
  - Increased traffic in vegetated areas
  - Increased activity in the plantation
- During operations risks include:
  - Turbine fires
  - Lighting strikes
- FRC recommended risk mitigation measures for the wind farm's design, construction and operations
- The Planning Panel determined there is no increase in bushfire risk from the Delburn Wind Farm provided FRC's recommended management measures are implemented.

State Emergency Management priorities

- Protection & preservation of life & relief of suffering:
  - Safety of emergency service personnel
  - Protecting community members, including vulnerable people and visitors to the area
- Community information and warnings are timely, relevant and assist community to make informed decisions about their safety
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets
- Protection of residential property
- Protection of assets supporting individual livelihoods and economic production
- Protection of environmental and conservation assets

Design controls for bushfire mitigation

- Transmission cables underground, except a short length (~100m) of 220kV line at network connection point
- All turbines will have fire detection systems, in-built fire protection and suppression, remote alarms and notification systems
- Physical barriers to eliminate flame contact and radiant heat exposure to the terminal station
- Increase in fire water availability - 5 x 100,000L static water supply tanks on site
- An Asset Protection Zone around each turbine
- All building designs to comply with regulations and building codes for bushfire-prone areas and AS3959
- Appropriate bunding in areas where there is potential for flammable fuels, oils leaks and creation of fire or environmental risks
- Landscape level fire detection system to be installed

Management controls during construction

- All activities during Fire Danger Period will comply with CFA Act & CFA Guidelines for Renewable Energy Installations (February 2019)
- Works to cease early in the day when high fire danger is forecast
- A communication plan to update landowners, stakeholders and community on construction activities
- All contractors and staff will be trained in bushfire response
- A mobile fire-fighting unit will be located at each work front
- Only approved vehicles can access the plantation and must carry fire suppression equipment
- Appropriate bunding in areas where there is potential for flammable fuels, oils leaks and creation of bushfires or environmental risks

Management controls during operations

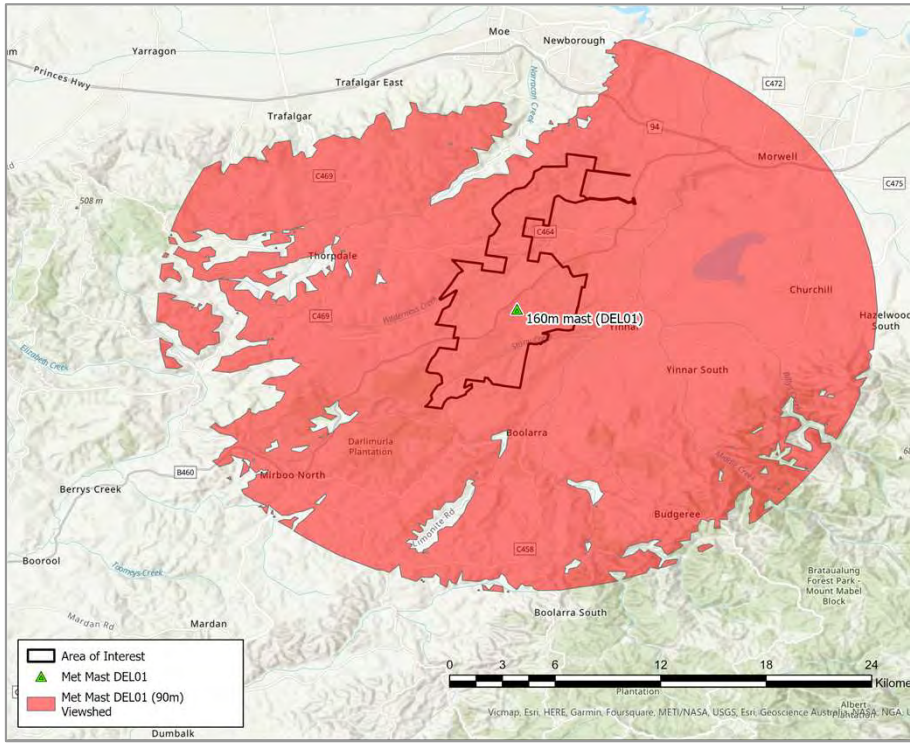
- Ability to remotely shut down turbines during bushfires or reported faults
- Regular inspections and maintenance of all turbines, substation and power cables
- A bushfire response and communications plan
- Onsite firefighting equipment and firefighting water supplies at strategic locations around the wind farm
- Increased operational activity in the plantation may deter arsonists
- A non-combustible cleared area of 50m radius around the base of all turbines
- Annual joint operations planning and training activities with all fire agencies
- All wind farm staff trained as first responders and will join the HVP Gippsland Forest Industry Brigade
- A fire fighting appliance will be based at the operations centre and deployed to appropriate locations across the site where works are being conducted on high-risk days
- Roads built during construction will be maintained to provide additional fire breaks and ensure unimpeded access for incident response

Firebombing capability

- Wind turbines do not pose an unacceptable risk to aerial firebombing
- Turbines can be quickly shut down and parked in the ‘Y’ position to facilitate aerial bombing
- Fire-bombing is always undertaken using visual flight rules
- CFA requires a minimum spacing of 300 metres between the turbines for firebombing aircraft
- Delburn wind farm has >600 metre spacing between turbines
- AFAC guidelines note:
  - Wind monitoring towers can be less visible than turbines and so locations should be noted during aerial firefighting operations
  - Turbine towers will be treated similar to other tall obstacles. Pilots and Air Ops Managers will assess these risks as part of route procedures.

Pano AI Fire detection Pilot

- A key component of the fire protection by design is to install cameras on the three met masts to support early detection of bushfires across the landscape
- In a Australian first, the Delburn Wind Farm will use Pano AI technology to help detect fires. Through a pilot, we will be able to use cameras and technology to detect and monitor fires if and when they start.
- Early detection increases the ability to get resources on the scene quickly and alert nearby communities of danger. Minute by minute updates can be provided to fire fighters to support their response.
- This technology will detect smoke and fire as it appears in the landscape, pinpointing the latitude and longitude of the location of the incident.



Live Intelligence to Protect Communities & Assets from Bushfires

PANO

Detection

Pano detects smoke by continuously monitoring feeds from Pano Stations, satellites, and emergency services

Confirmation

Pano detects smoke by continuously monitoring feeds from Pano Stations, satellites, and emergency services

PANO

Dissemination

SMS

EMAIL

Pano 360 Alerts push live video and fire information to mobile devices, prepping responders for action

Response

Pano enables faster & more informed response through actionable intelligence

First Responders

Pilot Incident Notification Workflow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20.8°
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Full Screen
Pan, Tilt, Zoom Control
This Optical Zoom Session is live.

Questions?

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