



Meeting Record

Project Name	Mid North Wind Farm	Meeting Date	9 November 2011
Meeting / Subject	Community Liaison Group	Recorded By	MP
	Meeting 1	Total Pages	12

Facilitator:	Georgina House	Aurecon
Members:	Abby Walker-Schwartz	
	Andrew Allchurch	Gilbert Group CFS
	Colin Endean	ACF Climate Project, Transition Action Group
	Glenn Christie	
	Heidi Hodge	
	Jenny Turner	Burra Community Management Committee
	John Faint	Waterloo and District Concerned Citizens Group
	Lis Jones Ingman	Burra Community Management Committee
	Peter Edson	Burra Regional Tourism and Business Association
	Pip Edson	Burra Regional Art Gallery
	Yvonne Cloke	Barossa Lower North Futures Inc
TRUenergy Representatives	Clint Purkiss	Project Development Manager
	Michael Head	OHS&E, Waterloo Wind Farm and Cathedral Rocks Wind Farm
	Ross Edwards	General Manager, Generation Development
Observers	Trevor White	Wind Farm Liaison Officer
Apologies	Cindy Nolan	Regional Development Australia
	David Clarke	
	Vincent Branson	Ngadjuri Walpa Juri Lands and Heritage Association Inc
Minute Taker	Mel Pinding	Aurecon

Item	Topic	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Welcome by Georgina House (Aurecon) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Georgina welcomed everyone to the first Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting. • Purpose of the CLG is to encourage and support constructive dialogue between the local community and TRUenergy and to build relations between stakeholders and community. • The focus of the CLG will be on Waterloo and Stony Gap Wind Farm projects. • Looking forward to your involvement as a group working together to consider a range of topics of relevance to wind farms and the Mid North Region. 	



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1.2	<p>Welcome by Ross Edwards and brief background on TRUenergy (TRUenergy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TRUenergy is a key player in the market with around 3 million customers and 20-25% of the retail market. ● One of the largest private energy businesses in Australia. ● Has been operational in the Australian Energy Market since 1995. ● Operates a wide portfolio of energy generation facilities, including coal, gas and wind assets. ● Own 100% of Waterloo and Stony Gap Wind Farm projects as at 1 July 2011. ● Keen to 'get involved and listen' to the community. 	
1.3	<p>Agenda and Housekeeping (GH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Georgina explained the contents of the White CLG Folders for members – information will be added to the folder over time. ● Outlined agenda. ● All questions to be directed through the facilitator. 	
1.4	<p>Round the Table Group Introductions</p> <p>Georgina invited members to introduce themselves and their interest and involvement in the local community and wind farms.</p> <p><u>John Faint</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Landholder within 4km of Waterloo Wind Farm. ● Co-chair of Waterloo and District Concerned Citizens Group. ● Feels that the Waterloo Wind Farm is causing social breakup of neighbours and families – some families have moved away from the area. ● Concerned about environmental damage to the natural landscape. ● Lack of communication from Hydro Tasmania and Roaring 40s (i.e. told that Roaring 40's would see out the life of the project but only lasted 6 months). ● Feels that information in the past has not always been accurate. ● Concerned about eagle colony – 1 pair is nesting but where are the others? ● Concerned that other important flora and fauna have/will disappear from locality. 	
	<p><u>Yvonne Cloke</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Executive Officer – Barossa Lower North Futures Inc. ● Works with young people to engage or reengage in education and training and is keen to investigate the opportunities this development may present and turn negatives into positives. 	
	<p><u>Abby Walker-Schwartz</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Waterloo resident with Wind Farm cabling across land. ● On the Waterloo Hall Committee – seeking funding to create a community “public” space incorporating shelter and interpretive signage (awaiting council approval). ● Education background. ● Agrees there has been some level of community division caused by the development. ● Keen for young children to grow up knowing what is going on around them and in the community. 	



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	<p><u>Andrew Allchurch</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Local resident living 1.5km on the eastern side of the Waterloo Wind Farm. ● Has been farming in the area with his parents for 43 years. ● Volunteer, Gilbert Group Country Fire Service. ● General interest in the developments. 	
	<p><u>Heidi Hodge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Local landowner for 10 years, north of Blacksprings and near proposed Stony Gap Wind Farm. ● Interest in NRM and Sustainable Energy. ● Keen to engage her small child in the process. 	
	<p><u>Clint Purkiss</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Project Development Manager for Renewable Energy. ● Has previous experience in Europe/UK. ● Enthusiastic about consulting this CLG Group. 	
	<p><u>Trevor White</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wind Farm Liaison Officer (Central Local Government Region) – 12 month position, beginning October 2011. ● Not official member of CLG Group and therefore participating as an observer. ● Previous experience as Town Planner in Gawler for 5-6 years. ● Town Planner for Grain Industry for 14 years. ● Role in monitoring federal government legislation, liaison with State Government and Local Government and ensuring they are aware of community concerns. ● Also working with developers/stakeholders. ● Ensuring guidelines are in place for when this position no longer exists. ● Has had discussions with Michael Head and found him to be very approachable. ● Looking forward to future liaison with the CLG Group. 	
	<p><u>Lis Jones Ingman</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Burra resident. ● Feels important to be part of the group and have an awareness of these wind farm developments. ● Concerned about the encroachment of wind farms on the landscape. 	
	<p><u>Jenny Turner</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relative newcomer to Burra. ● Interested to find out more about the developments. ● “On the fence” with regard to the wind farm developments – believer in renewable energy but realises there are issues. 	



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	<p><u>Peter Edson</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Retiree to Burra. ● President of Burra Regional Tourism and Business Association. ● Enthusiastic to work with TRUenergy to provide positive outcomes to the community. ● Keen to understand the benefits these developments will have for the Burra region. ● Curious as to how these will assist in meeting the Government Sustainable Energy Targets. 	
	<p><u>Pip Edson</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair of Burra Regional Art Gallery. ● When first relocated to Burra, was satisfied, but now concerned with the wind farm encroachment on the skyline. ● Concerns regarding potential effects on eagle colonies. ● Realises that we need clean energy, but impossible to please everyone. ● Has had positive liaison with AGL and Suzlon in the past. ● Realises the developments may bring good financial outcomes for the area. 	
	<p><u>Colin Endean</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Part of the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) Climate Project – the Australian branch of Al Gore's Climate Change Leadership Program Al Gore Climate Project ● Also part of the Local Transition Action Group for Clare and Surrounds. ● Participated in the Transition Culture Positive Energy Conference. ● Interested in how we can create opportunities from these developments. ● Interested in community ownership of wind farms. 	
	<p><u>Glenn Christie</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Has lived in Truro for around 3.5 years. ● Has lived in the Barossa region for 25 years. ● Self-employed – seed collector and tree planter (seasonal). ● Interested in the change process from rural to urban and the resulting changes in landscape. ● Feels Wind Farms are a manifestation of the change process. 	
	<p><u>Michael Head</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Has lived in Clare since February 2000. ● Keen interest in renewable and sustainable energy. ● Thanks to all for volunteering to be part of this group – TRUenergy appreciates your participation. ● No need to identify as a positive or negative – all points are valid and worthwhile. ● Keen to move on and improve. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Georgina asked the group whether they feel there is a good mix of geographical locations and interest areas in the group – group agreed. ● John Faint commented that the damage has been done with regard to past lack of communication, but Michael Head has been great to communicate with. 	



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<p>2</p> <p>2.1</p>	<p>Community Liaison Group</p> <p>CLG – Terms of Reference Overview (GH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Georgina gave a brief overview of the CLG Terms of Reference and purpose of the Group, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CLG – one mechanism to consult with community ○ Listen, encourage and support constructive discussion ○ Work through concerns, share ideas and discuss opportunities ○ Members with a range of interests and backgrounds ○ Members with strong networks and representation in the local community ○ Voluntary membership ○ Support staff and technical specialists will attend as appropriate ○ Focus on Waterloo and Stony Gap projects ○ Independent facilitation and code of conduct ○ Meet Bi-monthly ○ Respect media and public speaking protocols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All media enquiries should be directed to Sarah Stent, TRUenergy Corporate Affairs on (03) 8628 1676 - CLG Members approached by media must make it clear their response is a personal view, rather than the collective view of the CLG - As a courtesy, members asked for media or public comment, should advise the meeting facilitator in advance of providing a response ● Members understood the CLG Terms of Reference. 	
<p>2.2</p>	<p>CLG Purpose and Conduct</p> <p>Georgina invited members to consider what they see as the purpose of the CLG, what they would like the group to achieve, and what behaviour supports constructive discussion. Members worked in two small groups and the following points were recorded.</p> <p>Purpose <i>What is the purpose of the Community Liaison Group?</i> <i>What do you hope the CLG will achieve or contribute to?</i></p> <p><i>Responses – Group One</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Information ● Access to communication ● Community and communication go hand in hand ● Move forward ● Positive results and genuine outcomes, not just ticking boxes ● Listen and be heard ● Respect ● Accountability ● Honesty ● Education potential ● Tourism potential ● Discussion ● Community benefits ● Stick to commitments ● Community harmony, environment care and protection. 	



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	<p><i>Responses – Group Two</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Achieve more than lip service ● Work towards reconciling divisions ● Positive future for the community ● Identify issues ● Procedures to action – Action Plan ● Where are the win/win outcomes i.e. jobs, sharing for community ● Communication from this group via groups/friends/social groups ● Information sharing (website, newsletter, etc), set up a framework ● Contribute towards conflict resolution ● Potential opportunities/new possibilities ● Managing change ● Recognise stakeholders ● Hearing views/feeding back from community groups ● Engagement vs. Consultation – two way process important. <p>Conduct <i>What behaviour supports constructive discussion?</i></p> <p><i>Responses – Group One</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Respect ● Mutual respect ● Understanding the limitations of the group ● Listen well ● Up-skilling – recognise different knowledge levels. <p><i>Responses – Group Two</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Respect ● Cooperation ● Listen ● Compromise ● Confidentiality – understand what is and what isn't? ● Group norms – discuss/reports ● Ideas – not personality ● Agree to disagree. <p>Both small groups reported back and Georgina thanked all for their contributions.</p> <p>Georgina suggested that it would be beneficial to use this work to create a Group Charter. Georgina offered to consider the ideas generated and develop a draft Charter for further consideration. The group agreed.</p> <p>Action: Georgina to develop a draft Charter based on the small group work and circulate to CLG members for review and comment. CLG Members to review and provide comment.</p>	<p>Georgina to draft Charter and circulate to CLG for comment</p> <p>CLG Members to review and provide comment on Draft Charter</p>



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3	<p>Overview of TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm Projects by TRUenergy Representatives</p> <p><u>Michael Head – Waterloo Wind Farm</u> Michael provided a brief update on the Waterloo Wind Farm. Operational update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 17 2011 marks 12 months of Waterloo wind farm being fully operational. • In last 12 months has produced 312 GWh of renewable electricity. The equivalent of removing 85,000 vehicles off the road <p>Environmental update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 4 Bird Strikes have been recorded during the 12 months since operation began. • Currently working on civil remediation to address erosion issues on site. • Weed Control Program contracted to local vendor. • \$35,000 worth of Native Perennial Grass seed in storage to reseed all earthwork beginning May 2012 <p>Occupational update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Lost time Incidents since operation began. • Additional staff – 2 appointments since December 2010. • Nine staff now on site (Vestas and TRUenergy) <p>Michael also responded to the following questions.</p> <p>Questions & Answers</p> <p>Q: <i>What does the term “Returning Capacity Factor” mean?</i></p> <p>A: Capacity Factor is the ratio of power actually generated by a turbine compared to its maximum power output.</p> <p>Q: <i>Why not aim higher than 31%? Why not 50%?</i></p> <p>A: In the UK, anything above 20% is considered commercially viable. We are looking at increasing the percentage. If you ignore any turbine failures, the percentage is higher. The percentage varies depending on individual sites.</p> <p>Q: <i>Does a community fund exist, similar to AGL?</i></p> <p>A: No, a community fund does not exist, but the establishment and operation of a fund is one model that could be considered to assist fund community projects. The community fund model requires a tendering process to secure funding. TRUenergy want to engage with the local community to discuss the opportunities for partnering with community on key projects and initiatives, and see the CLG as a potential way to commence that engagement process. Happy to explore this further with the CLG.</p>	



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	<p>Q: <i>What is a 'cable joint'?</i></p> <p>A: A cable joint connects lengths of cable that run between turbines. A cable joint is needed about every 600metres. Cable joints have the potential to overheat and separate on occasion, resulting in turbine failure.</p> <p><u>Clint Purkiss – Stony Gap Wind Farm</u></p> <p>Clint provided a brief update on the proposed Stony Gap Wind Farm addressing background, project status and development process. .</p> <p>An overview of the Stony Gap Wind Farm Development Application is attached to the minutes.</p> <p>Clint also provided an overview of the new guidelines released by the State Government via the Statewide Wind Farms Development Plan Amendment (DPA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wind farms are now assigned Category 2 status ● DPA is on 'Interim Operation' for 12 months ● Written submissions on the DPA are being received from the public until 13 December 2011. These will then be reviewed by the Minister and decisions made as to whether to proceed with the implementation of the DPA or to make any further amendments to the policy. <p>Georgina referred to two documents provided in the white folder which relate to the State Government policy change and provide more information on the purpose of the policy change, being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Statewide Wind Farms Development Plan Amendment, October 2011, Department of Planning and Local Government ● Press Release – New Guidelines for Assessing Wind Farms, October 2011, Regional Council of Goyder <p>Clint also responded to the following questions.</p> <p>Questions & Answers</p> <p>Q: <i>Do you expect any changes to be made to the Government guidelines?</i></p> <p>A: We do not know.</p> <p>Q: <i>Did you meet all the criteria for Category 2 in the Stony Gap Development Application?</i></p> <p>A: Yes.</p> <p>Q: <i>How close to Burra is the furthest north turbine?</i></p> <p>A: Approximately 4.8 kilometres.</p>	



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	<p>Q: <i>Can you provide some background on this Development Plan Amendment? Who generated it?</i></p> <p>A: The DPA was generated by State Government. There is further information in your CLG Folder in the 'Statewide Wind Farms Development Plan Amendment' brochure.</p> <p>Q: <i>Was the DPA generated due to concerns?</i></p> <p>A: Likely – there were 4 appeals raised (and refused) including Allendale recently.</p> <p>Q: <i>Does the DPA make it easier for your application to go through.</i></p> <p>A: The DPA changes the way the application is handled. The application will still be assessed against the Development Plan in terms of land use and social and environmental suitability, however the public notification process is different and there is no right of third party appeal once a decision is made. It does not change TRUenergy's approach to community engagement on wind farm projects.</p> <p><u>Clint – Waterloo 2</u></p> <p>Clint provided a brief update on Waterloo 2 Wind Far, which relates to a proposal for six turbines, addressing background, project status and development process. An overview of the Waterloo 2 project is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>Clint also responded to the following questions.</p> <p>Questions & Answers</p> <p>Q: <i>Is Inspiration Point included in the project area?</i></p> <p>A: No, that is 20 kilometres to the east.</p> <p>Q: <i>What are some of the technical studies undertaken for this development?</i></p> <p>A: Technical studies include flora, fauna, cultural heritage, access roads, wind monitoring, electromagnetic interference and communication studies.</p> <p>Q: <i>Were you aware that since 2008 the subject area is EPBC listed for containing the critically endangered Peppermint Box?</i></p> <p>A: The subject area will be undergoing extensive flora testing as part of the Development Application. The focus is more on the eco-system surrounding the Peppermint Box than the species itself.</p>	



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	<p>Q: We were told at a community meeting that the government will not fix our roads until construction of Waterloo 2 commences. What potential time frame are we looking at?</p> <p>A: TRUenergy not aware of this, but will follow up with Council and report back on.</p> <p>Q: Has any research been done into Geothermal or Solar Energy? Isn't Geothermal the way of the future?</p> <p>A: Renewables SA are looking into community owned solar schemes. There is \$1M up for grabs for an Eol for Solar in Goyder. This area is not suitable for geothermal energy production but there is geothermal much further north.</p> <p>Q: When considering the landscape as a whole, when do we say enough is enough? We don't want every piece of land used.</p> <p>A: We can consider landscape in this forum and discuss these types of questions.</p>	<p>Clint to follow up with Council and report back to CRG</p>
4	<p>Key Issues and Opportunities</p> <p>Given time constraints of the meeting it was agreed to skip the comprehensive discussion around issues and opportunities and focus on the key issues and opportunities that should form the topics for the next meeting. Refer agenda item 5 – Topics for the Next Meeting.</p>	
5	<p>Topics for the Next Meeting</p> <p>The CLG discussed and identified the following key topics as the preferred topics for the next meeting.</p> <p>1. Understanding Noise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad overview on the theory of noise and noise assessment • Waterloo – noise assessment process and findings • Stony Gap – noise assessment process and findings • Noise monitoring and management process • Consideration of reports of infrasound, tonality and the science behind these issues. What is the literature saying? • Discussion on how this compares to individual experiences • TRUenergy will organise Christophe Delaire of Marshall Day Acoustics to attend <p>2. If Stony Gap goes ahead, what influences and changes are expected?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What physical influences and changes should the local community expect? • Staff numbers and timing? – construction and operation • Sponsorship? 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local office presence? (i.e will there be a physical TRUenergy presence at the project sites?) • Other benefits? • Discussion - <i>How should the local community gear up for development?</i> <p>3. What geothermal and solar projects is TRUenergy working on?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid North focus • Solar focus • Broad awareness of other technologies where relevant • Discussion - <i>What benefits do these projects bring?</i> <p>4. Key Issues and Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion - <i>What are the key issues and opportunities associated with wind farms?</i> • What are the community support and sponsorship opportunities? <p>A further topic was identified, perhaps for discussion in CLG Meeting 3:</p> <p>5. Landscape character and balance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the market factors that TRUenergy consider when assessing wind farm potential? (wind characteristics, transmission corridors) • Discussion - <i>What criteria do the CLG believe are important when considering the effect of a wind farm in terms of landscape character?</i> • Discussion - <i>When is enough, enough? Where is the balance?</i> 	
6	<p>Questions and Answers</p> <p>Given time constraints of the meeting it was agreed to skip further questions and answers.</p>	
7	<p>Other Business and Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of this meeting will be distributed to all members for review for a period of two weeks, then following any requirement for further review, the minutes will be placed on TRUenergy's website. • Other information will be regularly uploaded to the TRUenergy website as it becomes available for public viewing. • Ways to communicate with the wider community will be considered at future meetings. 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georgina invited members to consider two forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farms – Survey: The purpose of the survey is to monitor community awareness of wind farm projects and TRUenergy over a period of time. It would be appreciated if CLG Members could complete the survey and return to Georgina House prior to the next meeting. CLG Feedback Form: The purpose of this form is to offer CLG Members an opportunity to provide any feedback (beyond that given at any meeting) to Georgina House at any time. 	CLG Members please complete TRUenergy Survey and return to Georgina House prior to the next meeting
8	Next Meeting and Close <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion regarding best time and place for future meetings. Agreed to meet at Gally's on the first Thursday of every second month from now on The next meeting was agreed to be held on Thursday 2 February 2012, 4.30pm to 6.30pm, Gally's Meeting Place, Farrell Flat 4.30pm to 6.30pm commencing Thursday, February 2, 2012. GH thanked all for their attendance and valuable inputs. Meeting close. 	

Next Meeting: Thursday February 2nd 2012 – 4.30-6.30pm at Gally's Meeting Place, Farrell Flat.

Attachments include:

- Statewide Wind Farms Development Plan Amendment, October 2011, Department of Planning and Local Government
- Press Release – New Guidelines for Assessing Wind Farms, October 2011, Regional Council of Goyder
- TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farms – Survey
- CLG Feedback Form
- Agenda for CLG Meeting, Thursday 2 February 2012
- Draft Group Charter

Georgina House Contact Details:

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Statewide Wind Farms Development Plan Amendment

Planning investigations & proposed policy changes released for public consultation

community information

The South Australian Government places primary importance on meeting its target to have 33% of electricity generated from renewable sources by 2020. In order to meet this objective, it is timely to review existing planning policy in relation to wind farm facilities.

The changes proposed are designed to underpin the role of Councils in wind farm development assessment in recognition and support of the key role Councils play in the assessment and development of the State's wind power industry. Updating the policy framework for the assessment of wind farm facilities will provide certainty and clarity to the community, industry and investors.

The amendments will deal with the specific issue of visual amenity by making it plain that wind farms are an acceptable form of development in areas of relatively low population densities, usually areas zoned rural and coastal.

The amendments will recognise that wind farms have visual impacts and they oblige developers and planning authorities to manage these impacts. As a guide, a managed impact would be one where a one kilometre separation distance has been established between residences and the nearest wind turbine unless a lesser distance is negotiated between a land holder and developer.

The intention is to bring the Council development pathway more into line with the State Government's Crown development pathway reflecting the current trend of developers choosing the State's pathway over the Council's. The overwhelming reason for this preference is that the outcomes of the Government processes cannot be appealed,

except on the grounds of judicial review of process. Wind farms will be assigned Category 2 status in the less populated zones to reinforce the Government's policy position that they are a form of development envisaged for these zones and therefore third party appeal rights should not be available.

In addition to the revised planning policy framework, there are a number of initiatives currently being explored by the South Australian Government. RenewablesSA (Department of Premier and Cabinet) is exploring, through legislative amendment, the creation of a wind farm notification regime to enable broader consultation for those directly affected by wind farm developments. A regional liaison manager will be established to assist Councils and others on renewable energy issues, a fund will be provided for Councils to access expert consulting advice when assessing renewable energy proposals, and new guidelines will be produced for limiting access by wind farm developers to the Crown development pathway.

For further information on these initiatives visit the RenewablesSA website
<www.renewablesa.sa.gov.au>



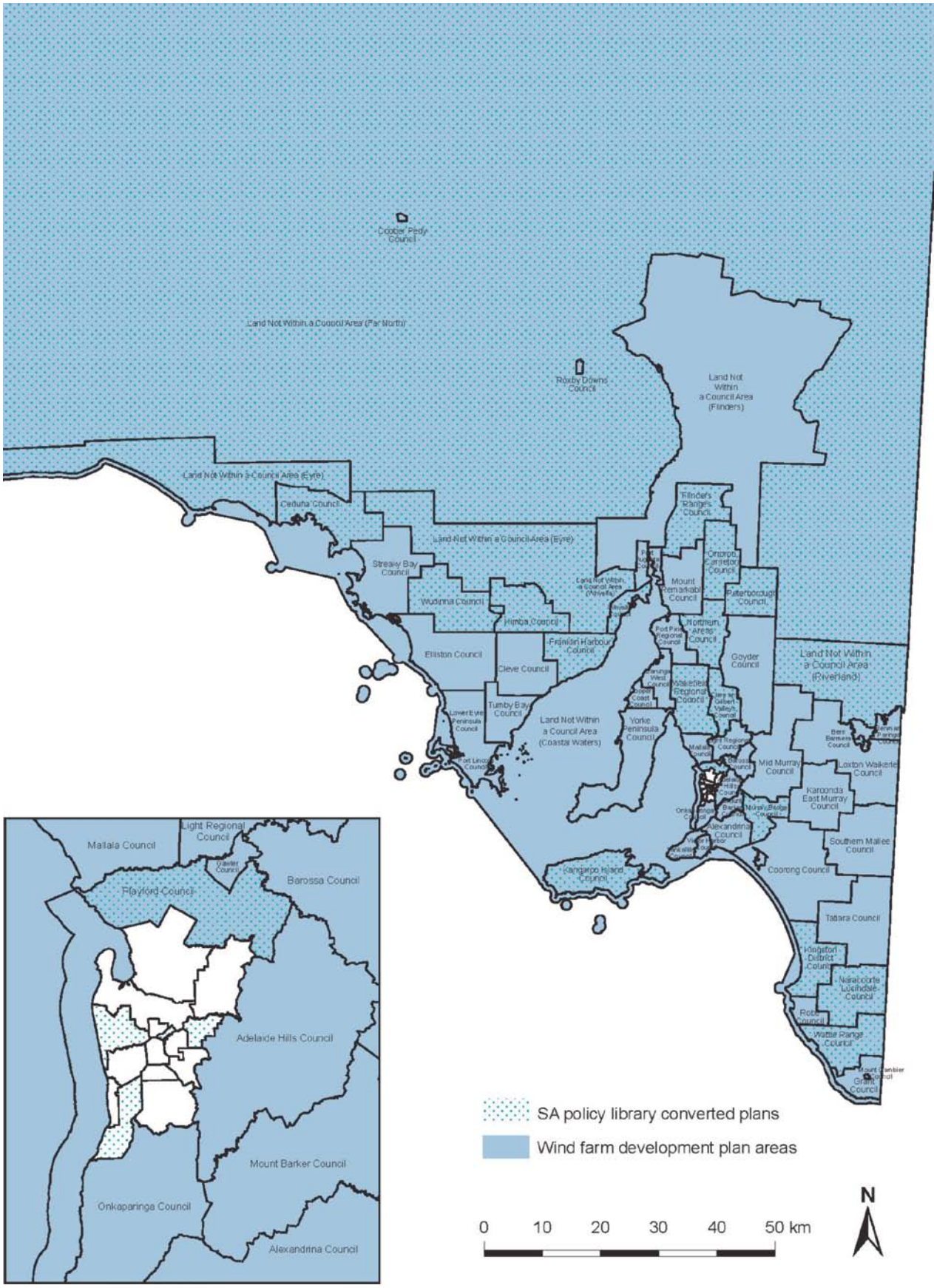
Government
of South Australia

Department of Planning
and Local Government

Area Affected Map

The area that would be affected by the proposed changes is shown on the map attached.

community information



What is a Development Plan Amendment (DPA)?

A Development Plan contains the planning controls which guide what can and cannot be developed within a Council area. Planning authorities use these planning controls to assess new development proposals.

A Development Plan Amendment (DPA) is a document that describes changes to a Development Plan.

A DPA must be prepared in accordance with strict processes set out by legislation. A key part of the process is to formally release the DPA so that the public can review the proposed changes and make written submissions.

Background

South Australia currently has 14 operating wind farms with another one under construction.

More than \$2 billion has been invested into wind farms in South Australia providing 1,150 megawatts of capacity. To date 534 wind turbines have been installed representing around 54% of Australia's total wind power generating capacity.

In 2010/2011, wind comprised 21.7% of electricity generated within South Australia – three years ahead of the *SA Strategic Plan* target of 20% of electricity generated by renewable sources by 2014 and nine years ahead of the national target.

The next milestone in the development of the renewable energy industry is to achieve 33% of electricity from renewable sources by 2020.

The State Government wants to provide greater certainty to communities and investors around renewable energy development.

One of the options available is to review the current planning policies relating to wind generated, renewable energy facilities in Development Plans across the state to ensure they are consistent and clear in intent, helping to achieve the renewable energy target set.

It is also timely to review these policies as they have not been substantially reviewed since their original introduction in 2003.

What changes are being proposed?

The purpose of this DPA is to review land use policy applying to wind farms.

This DPA is proposing to amend current policies at the council-wide level in relation to renewable energy facilities, in particular wind farms. It will also introduce both new and amended policies for wind farms and ancillary development, at the General (council wide) level and in certain zones where such facilities are more appropriate and therefore more likely to be located.

The policies in the DPA will be aimed at providing greater clarity for the development of wind farm facilities, by recognising them as an envisaged form of development in some zones of relatively low population densities. The policy will recognise that wind farms may need to be located in prominent locations to take advantage of the wind required for effective operations.

Interim Operation

The DPA will be on 'Interim Operation' for 12 months from the start of the public consultation period. This means that the policies being proposed in it will apply during this time.

Interim Operation is used when the Minister for Urban Development, Planning and the City of Adelaide (the Minister) considers that it is necessary in the interests of orderly and proper development.

In this case, the Minister considers that interim operation will allow for the timely application of an updated and relevant policy framework relating to renewable energy facilities, in particular wind farms and ancillary development. It will also provide clarity and certainty to the industry as well as an enhanced facilitative policy framework that will allow for orderly and proper development.

This does not mean, however, that changes to the policies cannot occur following the consultation: changes can occur if considered appropriate and your views and those of other individuals and organisations will certainly be taken into account.

Want to know more?

You can view the DPA document online at <www.sa.gov.au/planning/dpas> or in hard copy by visiting, during office hours:

- **Naracoorte Lucindale Council**
Degaris Place, Naracoorte
tel: (08) 8760 1100
- **City of Port Lincoln**
Level One, Civic Centre, 60 Tasman Terrace,
Port Lincoln
tel: (08) 8621 2300
- **District Council of Peterborough**
108 Main Street, Peterborough
tel: (08) 8651 3566
- **Department of Planning and Local Government**
Level 5, 136 North Terrace, Adelaide
tel: (08) 8303 0791

Have your say

The consultation process is run by the Development Policy Advisory Committee, an independent statutory committee which provides advice to the Minister on planning and development issues. The consultation includes the acceptance of written submissions and public meetings.

Written submissions

Written submissions on the DPA will be received from the public for a period of eight weeks, from 19 October 2011 to 13 December 2011.

Submissions should be sent to:

The Presiding Member, Development Policy Advisory Committee

Statewide Wind Farms DPA

- by post: c/-
Department of Planning and Local Government
GPO Box 1815, Adelaide SA 5001
- by email: dpac@sa.gov.au
- by fax: (08) 8303 0627

Please note: All public submissions will be available for viewing from the close of submissions until the conclusion of the public meeting(s) on the Department of Planning and Local Government website at <www.sa.gov.au/planning/dpas> and at the offices of the Department of Planning and Local Government, Level 5, 136 North Terrace, Adelaide.

Written submissions should clearly indicate whether you wish to be heard at the scheduled public meetings.

Public consultation meetings

Following the close of written submissions, public consultation meetings, at which submitters can present verbally, are scheduled at the following locations:

- 7pm on Tuesday 10 January 2012
Port Lincoln Hotel,
1 Lincoln Highway, Port Lincoln
- 7pm on Tuesday 17 January
Mercure Grosvenor Hotel,
125 North Terrace, Adelaide
- 7pm on Tuesday 24 January 2012
Naracoorte Town Hall,
95 Smith Street, Naracoorte
- 7pm on Thursday 2 February 2012
Peterborough Town Hall,
108 Main Street, Peterborough

Important note: If no submissions are received or if no-one requests to be heard by the Committee the scheduled public meetings may not be held. Please check the Department of Planning and Local Government website before the scheduled date of the meeting to find out whether it is being held. If you wish to make a verbal submission you must state this in your written submission.

What happens then?

Following the consultation process and the receipt of a report from the Development Policy Advisory Committee, the Minister will consider whether to make amendments to the DPA and whether to proceed with its implementation. If the DPA is adopted, the policy and mapping changes proposed will then be made to the affected Development Plans.

Contact details:

Planning Division
Department of Planning and Local Government

Denise Rigoni
tel: 08 8303 0816
email: denise.rigoni@sa.gov.au
www.dplg.sa.gov.au

RenewablesSA

Tim O'Loughlin
tel: 08 8207 2323
email: tim.o'loughlin@sa.gov.au
www.renewablesa.sa.gov.au



Regional Council of Goyder

1 Market Square, Burra, SA 5417

Telephone (08) 8892 0100
Email : council@goyder.sa.gov.au

Facsimile (08) 8892 2467
www.goyder.sa.gov.au

PRESS RELEASE

NEW GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSING WIND FARMS

State Government introduces changes to approval process

The State Government has introduced a number of changes to how wind farms are assessed and the approval process. The changes are primarily designed to facilitate further growth in the wind industry in South Australia. Of particular note in the State Government changes is a dramatic reduction in public consultation, the removal of third party appeal rights and the designation of wind farms as 'essential infrastructure' and part of the desired character for the region.

This press release has been prepared by the Regional Council of Goyder to inform its residents of the changes to Council's Development Plan that have been introduced by the State Government regarding the development of wind farms. Below is a summary of the amendments, as well as details of opportunities for public comment on the changes.

All wind farms and associated developments in South Australia cannot be constructed without approval. Approval can be obtained by lodging a Development Application and receiving Development Approval from the relevant authority. Generally speaking, Council is the relevant authority and the Council Development Assessment Panel must assess the merits of each application against the principles of the Council Development Plan.

Under the previous Development Plan and legislative framework, all wind farms and most associated development are processed as Category 3 for public notification purposes. The State Government (through the Minister for Urban Development and Planning) has introduced a number of changes to Council's Development Plan, through a 'Ministerial Development Plan Amendment'. This Development Plan Amendment has introduced a number of policy changes, directly affecting the way in which wind farms and associated development is processed and assessed. Notably, the changes have designated wind farms and associated development as (generally) Category 2 for public notification purposes. The table below explains the process for each of the two forms of public notification:

Category 2	Category 3
The owner of each adjoining piece of land is given notice of the proposed development	The owner of each adjoining piece of land, the public generally (through a newspaper advertisement) and any other owner of land that is likely to be affected is given notice of the proposed development
Only the adjoining owners may make written representations concerning the development to the relevant authority (Council)	Any member of the public may make written representations concerning the development to Council
The Presiding member can choose whether or not to allow people who have made a representation to speak in support of their comments before Council's Development Assessment Panel	Any person that has made a written representation and expressed a desire to be heard is automatically provided with the opportunity to speak before the Development Assessment Panel
No appeal rights exist to the public or persons that have made a representation	Any person that has made a representation can appeal the decision to the Environment, Resources and Development Court within 15 business days

In addition to the changes to the public consultation process, the Development Plan Amendment has also introduced a number of policies that designate wind farm as 'essential infrastructure', 'accepting that such facilities will often need to be sited in visually prominent locations' and nominating wind farms as part of the desired character of the region. These policy changes significantly reduce the emphasis that Council can place on the visual appearance of wind farms when assessing applications.

The State Government has also introduced 'management' techniques to lessen the visual impact of wind farms, including the introduction of a requirement for a 1 kilometre setback between wind farms and dwellings, a 2 kilometre setback distance between wind farms and residential areas, vegetation buffers for screening, regular spacing of turbines and consistency between the size and shape of turbines.

The State Government is currently undertaking mandatory consultation regarding the changes. The changes have already been introduced into Council's Development Plan with 'interim' effect which can last up to 12 months or until the changes are formally adopted by the Minister. The Development Plan Amendment and a community information sheet prepared by the State Government are available at the Department for Planning and Local Government offices, Level 5, 136 North Terrace Adelaide, at www.sa.gov.au/planning/dpas or www.goyder.sa.gov.au and at Goyder Council's Burra and Eudunda offices.

Any person may make a written submission regarding the Ministerial Development Plan Amendment directly to the Department of Planning and Local Government via email at dpac@sa.gov.au or posted and addressed to:

The Presiding Member
Development Policy Advisory Committee
Statewide Wind Farms Development Plan Amendment
C/- Department of Planning and Local Government
GPO Box 1815
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Any submissions regarding the State Government's Development Plan Amendment must be received at the Department of Planning and Local Government by 5p.m. on 13 December 2011. You should indicate in your submission if you wish to be heard at a public meeting.

Following the close of written submissions, public meetings will be held at the following locations at which interested persons may appear to be heard in support of their submission:

- 7p.m. on Tuesday 10 January 2012 – Port Lincoln Ballroom, 1 Lincoln Highway, Port Lincoln
- 7p.m. on Tuesday 17 January 2012 – Glen Roy Room, Mercure Grosvenor, 125 North Tce Adelaide
- 7p.m. on Tuesday 24 January 2012 – Naracoorte Town Hall, 95 Smith Street, Naracoorte
- 7p.m. on Thursday, 2 February 2012 – Peterborough Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Peterborough

If you would like more information about the State Government's Development Plan Amendment, you can contact Denise Rigoni at the Department for Planning and Local Government on 8303 0816, or via email Denise.Rigoni@sa.gov.au. Council staff are also able to offer assistance in lodging a submission or explaining the State Government's changes to Council's Development Plan.

For further general information please contact Chris Gosling, Development Officer on 8892 0100 or cgosling@goyder.sa.gov.au.

END

For media enquiries please contact John Brak, Chief Executive Officer

Telephone: 8892 0100 or 0417852400

Email: jbrak@goyder.sa.gov.au

TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farms – Survey (November 2011)



TRUenergy is proposing to monitor community awareness of wind farm projects and would appreciate your consideration of the following questions.

1. How much do you know about TRUenergy and our approach to building and operating wind farms?

A lot	A little	Very little	None at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. In the past three months what has been the level of contact you have had with TRUenergy?

A lot	A little	Very little	None at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please list means of contact (for example: website phone call, newsletter, info day)

3. TRUenergy is good at providing me with timely information about its Mid North wind farm projects.

Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. I am satisfied with how TRUenergy answers my questions and works to find solutions to my problems.

Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not applicable
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. How well do you feel you know the people who work with TRUenergy?

A lot	A little	Very little	None at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. TRUenergy is good at informing the wider community about its Mid North wind farm projects.

Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. TRUenergy is well known in the local community as a supportive and involved business.

Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



8. I am satisfied with the quality of the information materials provided by TRUenergy, (for example: website, newsletter, project brochures)

Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. I understand the issue of climate change and why clean energy is one part of the solution.

Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10. I believe wind farm projects are good for the Mid North region.

Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Any other comments or questions?

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TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm Community Liaison Group

Feedback Form

As facilitator of the TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm Community Liaison Group I welcome your feedback on the newly formed Community Liaison Group and TRUenergy wind farm projects generally. Your consideration of the following questions is appreciated.

What are your expectations of the Community Liaison Group?

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What do you hope to achieve through your involvement in the Community Liaison Group?

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.....

What do you consider to be the top three issues and/or opportunities?

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.....

What suggestions do you have for the running of the Community Liaison Group meetings? (i.e. feedback on format, content, timing, venue)

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Any other feedback?

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.....

Please return your completed form to Georgina House, Facilitator, Aurecon, at the conclusion of the meeting.

TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm Community Liaison Group Meeting Two



AGENDA

Details: Thursday 2 February 2012

Location: Gally's Meeting Place, 4 Patterson Terrace, Farrell Flat

Start Time: 4.30pm

Finish Time: 6.30pm

Facilitator: Georgina House

Meeting Purpose:

To encourage and support constructive dialogue between the local community and TRUenergy.

Item	Details	Presenter
1.	Welcome and Apologies	Georgina House
2.	Review Minutes of Previous Meeting	All
3.	Overview of TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm Projects	TRUenergy
4.	Understanding Noise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on the theory of noise and noise assessment, overview of Waterloo and Stony Gap projects • Discussion – <i>What is the literature saying? What are our individual experiences?</i> 	Christophe Delaire, Acoustic Engineer All
<i>Light Supper</i>		
5.	Stony Gap Wind Farm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview on what influences and changes are expected • Discussion - <i>How should the community gear up for development?</i> 	TRUenergy All
6.	Community Support and Sponsorship Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community support and sponsorship 	TRUenergy All
7.	Geothermal and Solar Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview on TRUenergy geothermal and solar projects with a Mid North Focus • Discussion - <i>What benefits could these projects bring?</i> 	TRUenergy All
8.	Other Business	All
9.	Topics for the Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape character – when is enough enough? • Other topics / key issues and opportunities 	All
10.	Questions and Answers	All
11.	Next Meeting and Close – Confirm Thursday 5 April 2012	Georgina House

Background

- June 2011: Stony Gap Development Application (DA) lodged with Regional Council of Goyder by Roaring 40s.
- July 2011 the TRUenergy wind development portfolio was created from the Roaring 40s disaggregation, which in South Australia included Stony Gap as well as operational and early stage developments.
- July to September 2011: TRUenergy assessing application, receiving and understanding SA Government Department comments i.e. DTEI, EPA, Murray-Darling NRM.
- October 2011: TRUenergy providing additional information requested.
- 20th October 2011: New guidelines released by State Government via Development Plan Amendment.
- 1st November 2011: TRUenergy withdrawal of Stony Gap Wind farm DA.
- 3rd November 2011: Stony Gap Development Application re-lodged under new guidelines



Background

- May 2005: The original Waterloo project was consented, provisional development plan consent was issued for 39 turbines.
- 17 December 2010: Waterloo wind farm fully operational with 37 turbines constructed
- July 2011: the TRUenergy wind development portfolio was created from the Roaring 40s disaggregation.
- July to October 2011: TRUenergy assessing the technical studies, survey results and baseline work that has been undertaken to date.
- November 2011: TRUenergy undertaking the additional required technical studies to fully understand the development site at Waterloo 2 in order to determine feasibility.
- December 2011 – January 2012: If the project is determined as feasible, a Development Application for Waterloo 2 will be prepared and submitted to Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council for assessment.



TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm

Community Liaison Group Charter



Purpose

A Community Liaison Group set up to discuss the Waterloo and Stony Gap Wind Farm Projects.

Aims

- Encourage and support constructive dialogue
- Build relations between TRUenergy, stakeholders and community
- Share information, research, knowledge, skills and experiences
- Communicate well as a group
- Effective two-way communication to and from the local community
- Identify and discuss key community issues and opportunities and topics of interest
- Produce beneficial results and positive outcomes for the community, TRUenergy and its employees
- Support community harmony and environmental care

Group Behaviours

- Respect each other
- Allow all to express views
- Listen well
- Be open to the opinions of others
- Act in an open, honest, professional and courteous manner
- Look for opportunities to reconcile differences
- Agree to disagree when required
- Understand the limitations of the group
- Recognise different knowledge levels within the group and provide up-skill opportunities
- Respect confidentiality and avoid '*naming names*' when informing the wider community
- Concentrate on the issues and opportunities, rather than who raises them
- Be genuine and accountable
- Commit to attending meetings whenever possible or provide advance notice of non-attendance

Terms of Reference

Refer to the TRUenergy *Mid North Wind Farms Community Liaison Group Terms of Reference* document for more detail.

TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm

Community Liaison Group Charter



Meetings of the Community Liaison Group

We, as members of the TRUenergy Mid North Wind Farm Community Liaison Group, support and approve the Community Liaison Group Charter.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| 1. Lis Jones Ingman | Date |
| 2. Jenny Turner | Date |
| 3. Peter Edson | Date |
| 4. Pip Edson | Date |
| 5. Cindy Nolan | Date |
| 6. David Clarke | Date |
| 7. Heidi Hodge | Date |
| 8. John Faint | Date |
| 9. Andrew Allchurch | Date |
| 10. Abby Walker-Schwartz | Date |
| 11. Glenn Christie | Date |
| 12. Yvonne Cloke | Date |
| 13. Vincent Branson | Date |
| 14. Ross Edwards (TRUenergy) | Date |
| 15. Clint Purkiss (TRUenergy) | Date |
| 16. Michael Head (TRUenergy) | Date |