

## Points to address at the Bango WF PAC hearing in Boorowa on 22/03/18

(the PAC public hearing will be held in the Boorowa Ex-Services Club from 9.00am)

- CWP is exploring two options for the Bango wind farm. The first is for 75 turbines. The second is for 61 turbines. DPE have recommended that 71 turbines from option 1 or 58 from option 2 be approved. The wind farm will connect to the 132 kV transmission line that runs through the site. There will be about 5 kms of overhead transmission lines in the project. All other cabling will be underground.
- The turbines that have not been recommended for approval have been excluded on “**visual grounds**”. The wind farm complies with all other issues relating to noise and the environment.
- As the development of the wind farm has progressed, the proponent (CWP Renewables) has removed 47 turbines (35 from option 2) to address community concerns and environmental considerations. This has excluded 5 hosts from the project. The proposed removal of a further 3 turbines **on visual grounds** is a further reduction of 5% from the amended proposal.
- The closest neighbour to the turbines that are proposed to be removed on visual grounds is not in favour of their removal.
- Because of their size, wind farms always have a visual effect. This visual effect is totally subjective.
- All studies done into the visual aspect of wind farms have shown the overwhelming majority of people like looking at wind turbines.
- This is another proposed injection of massive economic benefits into the Boorowa/Yass region. It needs to be managed carefully, but not resisted. Investment of approximately \$90million in the Boorowa/Yass region is being put at risk by the recommended removal of the turbines by DPE.
- Focussing on how wind farms look and ignoring the benefits they can and do bring to farmers and regional communities will send development to other states.
- The fixed costs of the project will remain the same. The loss of 5% of the turbines means the levelised cost of electricity is substantially higher than it would have been. This makes the entire project far less competitive in the market for renewable energy, which is a very competitive.
- Wind turbines don't spoil the view of farmers who are struggling to make a living and want to host them to assist in achieving financial (and therefore environmental) viability and sustainability. The recommended removal of an additional 3 (or 4) turbines by DPE will mean that about \$50,000 per annum in payments will be lost to the farmers of the region.
- The closest turbine to Kangiara is about 3kms from the village. This is a more than adequate distance to mitigate the visual impact of the turbines on the village.
- The recommended removal of 3 (or 4) additional turbines near the Kangiara village will mean that \$8,500-\$11,300 per annum will be lost to the Community Enhancement Fund for the project. This is money that will be lost to the community for ever!
- NSW needs to get serious about renewable energy development. The shortage of gas for generating electricity and business use has made it imperative that new wind and solar farms are built to alleviate this growing crisis.

## Suggested structure of your speech/presentation to the PAC

- **Remember that you need to register to speak to the PAC before 1.00pm on Tuesday March 20. You do this by phone on 02 9383 2115. Speak to Phillipa Vale. If you want to lodge a written submission I strongly suggest that you ring Phillipa and tell her this, then ask about the best way to lodge your writing with the PAC. Or simply send an email to [pac@pac.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pac@pac.nsw.gov.au)**
- You will have 5 minutes to speak, so take your time. You don't need to take up all of the 5 minutes.
- Welcome the Commissioners and thank them for taking the time to listen to your submission.
- Speak to the Commissioners directly and don't be distracted or disturbed by any "audience reactions". The meeting will be very strictly controlled by the PAC Commissioners. They will not allow any interjections or intimidation from the public.
- As far as possible, be brief and concise and focus on speaking to the points you are passionate about.
- Be emotional. If you feel the emotions in you while you are speaking, then express them. I can assure you the opponents will be doing this (maybe overdoing it!).
- You need to consider what is important to you in the above points, and write them up in your own language while you tell your own personal story.

**I'll be in Boorowa for the day on Tuesday, March 20 talking to local business owners about their views on the Bango wind farm. Please get in touch with me if you'd like me to call in and see you.**

Charlie Prell

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