

# COUNCILLOR MARK RODDA

*YOUR VOICE on Tamworth Regional Council*

Additional Submission to the Independent Planning Commission  
Proposed Engie Hills of Gold Wind Farm

Dear Commissioners

## **RE: INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENT (ILUA)**

Further to my recent submission regarding the proposed Engie Hills of Gold Wind Farm, I would like to draw your further attention to the lack of an ILUA between Engie and the Gomerioi people, which given their public announcements about agreements etc, is very disappointing behaviour from Engie.

I have been a Councillor serving the fine people of Tamworth Regional Council Local Government Area since September 2012. During councillor interactions with Engie staff to discuss the project, I would ask if they had or were negotiating an ILUA. They would always confirm and proudly boast that they had such an agreement.

At the most recent meeting between councillors and Engie staff back in November 2023 I asked again given the time that an ILUA takes to negotiate, "did Engie have an ILUA with the Gomerioi people"? "Yes", was the answer provided by Engie staff.

Below is a picture of a slide presented to Tamworth region councillors at the November 2023 meeting when discussing a Voluntary Planning Agreement – Figure 1.

You will note the bottom in bold "**Agreements with Gomerioi Native Title Claimant Group and Nungaroo Aboriginal Lands Council**" – Figure 2.

At the recent public hearings held in Nundle we heard from school principal Ian Worley, board member of the Nungaroo Local Aboriginal Land Council and Mr Peter White, Gomerioi Applicant for the Native Title Claim (NSD37/2019). Both men confirmed there was no such agreement. It is evident Engie representatives have deceived Tamworth Regional Council, councillors and members of the public on this matter.

My point is, if Engie is willing to turn up to public meetings including the public hearings acknowledge country, pay respects to elders past, present and emerging but then lie about the existence of such agreements, how many other matters related to Engie's proposal are erroneous?

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I trust the IPC will take this information into consideration, given the experiences of numerous speakers at the recent hearings about dealings they have had with Engie representatives.

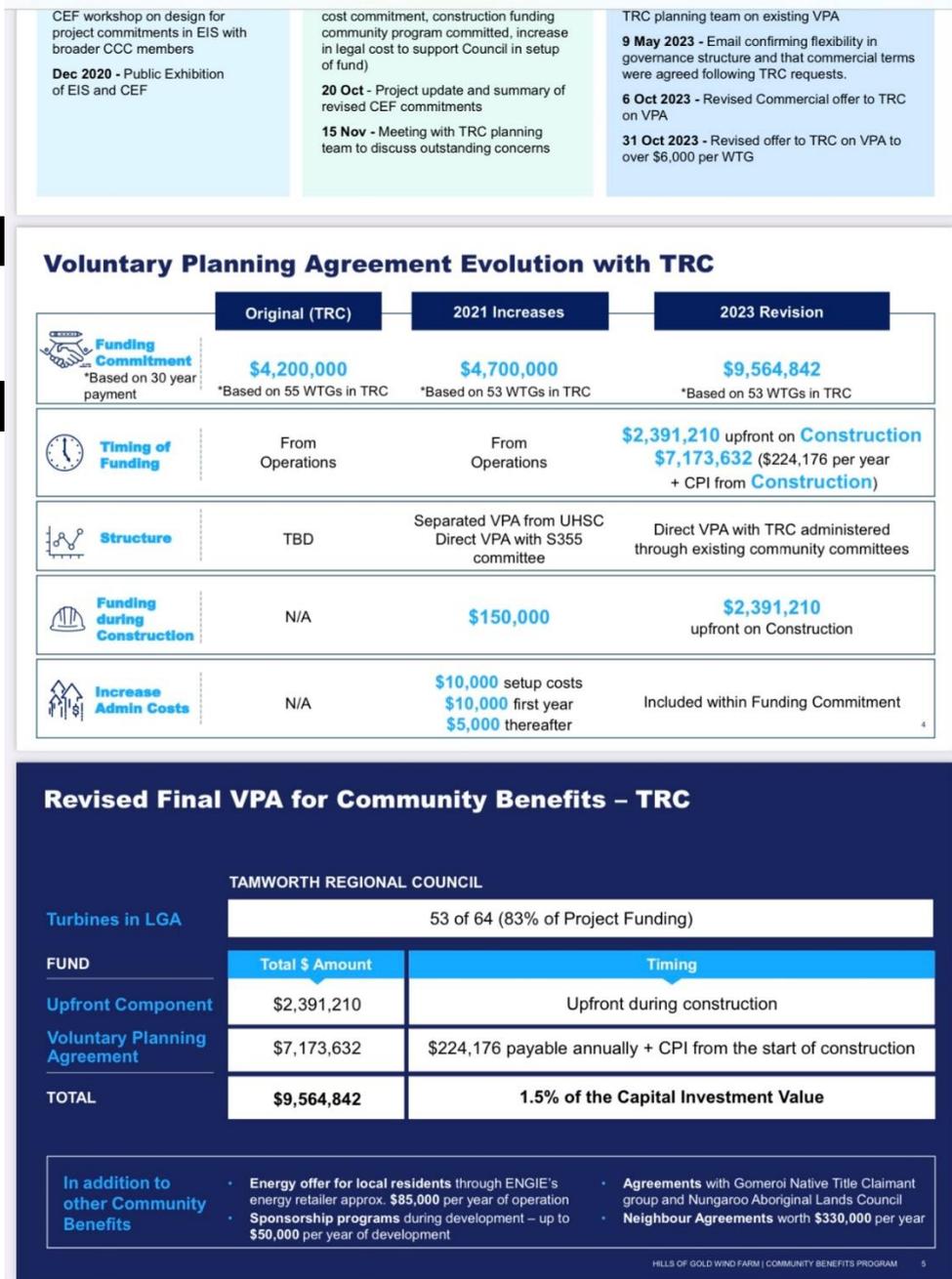


Figure 1. Full slide

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## In addition to other Community Benefits

- **Energy offer for local residents** through ENGIE's energy retailer approx. **\$85,000** per year of operation
- **Sponsorship programs** during development – up to **\$50,000** per year of development
- **Agreements** with Gomerioi Native Title Claimant group and Nungaroo Aboriginal Lands Council
- **Neighbour Agreements** worth **\$330,000** per year

HILLS OF GOLD WIND FARM | COMMUNITY BENEFITS PROGRAM 5

Figure 2. Enlarged slide excerpt

Yours sincerely

Mark Rodda  
Councillor

Tamworth Regional Council