

# MINUTES

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #30

Chair	Ian Gibson	Time	4 pm – 6 pm
Minutes	Jason Pickering	Date	2024-11-06
Location	RW May Pavillion, Yarram Recreation Reserve		

## Attendees

CAG Members	CAG Members	Project Team	Apologies
Ian Gibson	Harry Mitchelson	Sarah Altmann	Tony Cantwell
Travis Dillow	Peter Mooney	Erin Coldham	Wendy Farmer
Nick Dudley	Julianne Peavey	Paul Johnson	Marcus McKenzie
Ken Fraser	Allan Rogers	Jason Pickering	Jonathon Pintus
Nicki Jennings	Anne Roussac-Hoyne		Glenn Stagg
Deb Lucas	Jenny Smith		Tony Wolfe
Glen McColl	Jack Winterbottom		
Darren McCubbin			

## Key discussion points

Item	Outline
1	<b>Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</b>
2	<b>Standing items and actions from previous meeting</b>  <b>Focus topic: Star of the South Community Sponsorship</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Refer to presentation for key updates</li></ul> Paul shared that Star of the South, now Southerly Ten, has been supporting community initiatives with in-kind support sponsorships and donations since 2019. At this stage of project development, Southerly Ten is not generating revenue however sponsorship awareness and subsequent demand is consistently growing without promotion.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Nicki asked how sponsorship applications are assessed. Paul explained sponsorship requests are assessed based on adding value. For example, will the project bring communities together or deliver a positive social, economic or environmental outcome, and/or does it create an engagement opportunity for Southerly Ten to meet with the community.</li><li>– Ian stated that what Southerly Ten have been doing to date isn't really a benefit sharing program, because it's pre-project revenue generation. Paul agreed this current sponsorship program is more Southerly Ten being a</li></ul>

good neighbour before likely revenue generation, adding there is still uncertainty about what the requirements for offshore wind developers in a government-designed benefit sharing program.

- Nicki suggested Southerly Ten’s key assessment criteria should be on the website to help organisations understand why they did or didn’t receive support, and to assist and guide potential applicants.
- Deb added Southerly Ten could also outline the type of projects unlikely to be supported.
- Anne supports an ongoing application period which isn’t confined to specific months of the year. An ongoing application period better suits the needs of community event organisers. Jason shared that community organisations commend Southerly Ten for the flexible sponsorship program which are usually run by volunteers which don’t have year-round resourcing to identify and apply during set grant application periods.
- Jenny suggested the recipient of any support should be expected to provide a certain level of Southerly Ten brand exposure, not unlike what local governments do with their community grants, and certain support packages could be created with set exposure expectations. Paul added Southerly Ten hadn’t sought to promote all support given in the past, but that this could be considered for future published guidelines.

Peter agreed there should be an expectation that Southerly Ten should get something back for their investment. Paul said Southerly Ten often offers to have participation in the event, such as a Southerly Ten information stall to create an engagement opportunity.

- Nick added community legacy and reach should be considered when assessing funding requests and Southerly Ten is encouraged to offer a flexible sponsorship program which is responsive to differing needs.
- Sarah added it’s interesting to hear the CAG mention the need for community organisations to acknowledge Southerly Ten’s support as this is something we’ve struggled with in the past. Southerly Ten isn’t required at this stage of project to offer community support and have only done so to make a positive community contribution, but not to necessarily gain brand exposure. Up till this point, Southerly Ten has not required community organisations to acknowledge its funding support.
- Nicki added there would be benefit to publish sponsorship outcomes on the Southerly Ten website.
- Darren said he felt that support should meet with the strategic goals of the region. Jason added Southerly Ten ideally aims to support projects that can demonstrate or plan for financial sustainability and not be dependent on recurrent funding to remain viable or operational.

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#### 4 Break

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##### **Brief focus topic: GLaWAC ‘Pathways to Partnership’**

- [Refer to presentation for key updates](#)

5 Nick presented on the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation engagement strategy launched at the 2024 Gippsland New Energy Conference.

[Action 1.](#)

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##### **What’s happening on the project**

- 6
- [Refer to presentation for key updates](#)

Paul spoke of recent events and presentations delivered by the project team.

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##### **What’s happening in the community**

Community updates, open to all members.

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- Allan shared that recent government mapping showing the location of the twelve proposed developments of the Gippsland Offshore Wind Zone caused concern and confusion within his McLoughlins Beach community. Residents were aware of the proposed Star of the South development, due to early and ongoing public engagement, but there’s now community concern of over-development in our area. Allan stressed that the public needs to be aware it is highly unlikely all 12 projects will proceed to construction. Deb responded that information has been made public many times, including through our local print media, and it’s also up to CAG members to continue to correct misunderstanding or misinformation when it’s met.
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Paul added current Victorian Government offshore wind targets of 9GW in Victoria are across the two declared zones, however projects totally 25GW of offshore wind generation have received feasibility licences in Gippsland, noting these projects exceed the needs and targets of the Victorian Government.

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8 **Other business**

- Next meeting – CAG End of Year, 11 December 2024

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9 **Meeting close**

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## Actions

No.	Action	Owner	Due
-	GLaWAC 'Pathways to Partnership'. Find out more here: <a href="https://gunaikurnai.org/pathways-to-partnerships">https://gunaikurnai.org/pathways-to-partnerships</a>	Paul / Jason	2024-11-08

## Questions taken on notice

No.	Action	Owner	Due
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