First meeting of Hills of Gold Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee

The Hills of Gold Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee, held its first meeting on Wednesday, June 12 in

Nundle.

Wind Energy Partners representative Jamie Chivers gave a presentation outlining the proposed and the

environmental assessment process that is expected to take two years to undertake.

The Committee also worked together to discuss expectations of how they would work in the future as well as what

issues should be addressed in upcoming meetings including:

the impacts of the proposal on biodiversity and heritage;

undertaking a site trip;

• inviting the National Wind Farm Commissioner to talk to the committee.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr David Ross, said the first Committee meeting was very productive.

"The first meeting was productive in establishing the priorities of the Committee and agreement was reached on

initially focusing on the important issues of biodiversity and heritage," Mr Ross said.

"The next meeting will begin the process investigating biodiversity and heritage interests, by looking at what Wind

Energy Partners is proposing to do with their biodiversity and heritage investigations," he said.

"The next meeting will serve as a good starting point to exploring the issues surrounding biodiversity and heritage

concerns and begin the process of finding solutions that meet the standards of this community.

"The Committee members have a range of views, which is essential for a well rounded Committee; I'm sure it will

lead to some robust discussions at times, but that is part of meaningful progress," said David Ross.

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