

MEETING MINUTES

West North West Stakeholder Reference Group

Meeting #2

Date	7 June 2023
Time	5:30 pm-7:30pm
Presenters	Stewart Sharples (SS) Charlie McAlister (CM) Alicia Leis (AL)
Location	Circular Head Council Chambers, Smithton

Attendees

John McNab	Community Member
Elizabeth Ettlin	Community Member
Xander Power	Community Member
Brenton Hosking	Community Member
Jeremy Ward	Community Member
John Bruce	Community Member
Daniel Summers	Waratah-Wynyard Council
Vanessa Adams	Circular Head Council
Skye Thompson (online)	West Coast Council

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Victoria Cotton	Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation

Agenda

Ref no.	Item
1.0	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address outstanding group administrative items • Overview of the Mapping Important Places session
2.0	Overview – ReCFIT’s Internal Work to Inform REZ
3.0	Understanding North West Community Values <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does participatory mapping achieve? • Testing and trialling the online mapping tool
4.0	Short Break
5.0	Reviewing the Mapping Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the mapping tool functionality • Review the engagement approach for public participation
6.0	Next Steps and Meeting Close <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next SRG session • Mapping Important Places for public release

Minutes

Ref no.	Item
1.0	<p>Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country</p> <p>AL acknowledged country. AL introduced the session and those who were participating online.</p> <p>AL facilitated discussion regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SRG endorsing the terms of reference, subject to consideration of the detailed feedback provided by a CNW SRG member on the Scope • The process of providing draft minutes after each session for one round of feedback prior to endorsing the minutes at the following session, was agreed • A group photo was taken and agreed to be published online and/or in the newsletter.
2.0	<p>Overview – ReCFIT’s Internal Work to Inform REZ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SS provided an introduction to the exploratory work occurring internally to identify and compare options for REZ. This systematic approach will provide a better understanding of spatial impacts to inform REZ policy development, in line with multi-criteria assessments and applicable geographical information. • These assessments include investigating wind resource, environmental, heritage and land use - potential land use conflict or impacts on sites of environmental and heritage value, cost-effectiveness - proximity to existing transmission infrastructure, and investor interest (ROI). • SS described that over 380 individual spatial features from more than 60 spatial data layers have formed the analysis so far. This is further informed by an intergovernmental working group consisting of representatives from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment • Parks & Wildlife • Mining • Forestry • Planning • Heritage. • SS noted that ReCFIT is currently validating data from the analysis and a key component of this piece of work is the considerations of community values and undertaking the mapping important places initiative. • The outcome of this analysis is expected by August this year and ReCFIT intends to have a consultation period on the outcomes at this time.

3.0	<p>Understanding North West Community Values</p> <p>CM briefly described what the mapping exercise sets out to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping Important Places is a participatory mapping approach, which attempts to inform the relationship between place/sense of place and local community values • Collecting input from community via the mapping exercise will provide a unique visual representation and qualitative data of what the north west perceives as their place and identify features of significance/importance within it. • The tool also allows users to identify areas where they believe renewables would be best located. <p>CM stepped the group through the digital tool, describing the functions and features available, and that the test environment will be missing some features, of which feedback is welcomed.</p> <p>AL requested that as the group works through the tool with members to log their feedback in terms of useability, functionality and approaches to communicating the tool, its purpose, and ways to reach the north west community when it is released.</p> <p>The SRG group tested and trialled the digital mapping tool.</p>
4.0	<p>15 min break</p>
5.0	<p>Reviewing the Mapping Process Features and Functionality of the Tool</p> <p>After a short break, AL requested feedback from the group about the functionality of the digital mapping tool.</p> <p>The group provided the following feedback on the tool's features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructions to be made clear and easy to read • Bold and clear sentence – 'What is important to you?' is a simple question that people can easily understand • Pins don't give a sense of scale/area. It would be great to have the ability to block out a region rather than a single pinpoint • The tool is intuitive – the drop-down options are easy to use • Future iterations should place emphasis on multi-dimensional mapping • More explanation is needed on how to find a pin. If possible, the 'drop a pin' button could be placed at the top of the page to avoid scrolling down • The compulsory comments section is a good requirement to ensure people who drop a pin show commitment to the process • Simplicity is important to accommodate differing literacy levels • More emphasis in the 'set-up' should be on why the mapping process is important and what it will feed into/what decision making it will influence. <p>The following question was raised:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is it possible to have visual aids for the community to understand what the renewable energy infrastructure would look like if put in?
5.1	<p>Reviewing the Mapping Process Engagement Approach and Communicating the Tool</p> <p>AL requested feedback from the group to suggest communicating the tool, its roll-out and engagement approach in the north west.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telling the story is important. There is a need to articulate to people who we want to participate in the mapping process, ‘why is this important/what’s in it for me’ Describing to community what is ‘off limits’ when mapping, would dispel myths e.g. there will be no renewables in the TWWHA or National Parks Can ‘gaming’ be applied to the digital mapping process to enhance engagement? <p>The group described other community members who should be consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors to the North-West e.g. shack-owners and four-wheel drivers Owners of large lots of land Schools and colleges Aboriginal groups Parent groups at schools Conservationists Mines Groups likely to be opposed to renewable energy development should be targeted to receive information early, before adopting other alternative narratives or ideas from misinformation

	<p>AL asked SRG members to provide ideas on where and how to consult the north west community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online, i.e. Facebook and web • Instagram with a promotional prize – influence younger people to participate • Libraries. As these spaces are non-partisan, easy to access, and can provide space for non-digital methods • Face to face is highly valued in the north west • Community notice boards • Events stalls suggested: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tulip festival • Arts festival. • Further consideration to the term / catch phrase – REZ is required as this might not yet mean anything to people • Brochures or posters could be placed at the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctors' surgeries • Visitor centre • Shops • Sporting venues/groups • Services Tasmania • Child and family learning centres. • Advertising in local community publications e.g. The Chronicle. <p>The SRG then provided feedback on the engagement approach and further discussion about this stage of the REZ-engagement process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can people outside the area use the tool? • Can people who have contributed be identified by postcode, to contextualise pin-placement by origin, i.e. local residents compared to people living outside of north west? • Is it possible to have visual aids for the community to understand what the renewable energy infrastructure would look like in-situ? <p>The group noted that communications could outline to the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the conflicts? Are there any trade-offs? • Discussions about mapping and REZ in the community should aim to assist in their broader understanding of renewable energy • The consultation process should aim to record informed opinions • How can we better inform the community and how can we target informed opinions? <p>After looking at the map, the group indicated that some areas appropriate for new renewable energy (wind) could be;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Near existing energy corridors, for transmission • Degraded areas/ existing use/ already impacted land.
6.0	<p>Next Steps and Meeting Close</p> <p>AL thanked everyone for the comprehensive feedback on the mapping tool and for informing the next steps for ReCFIT to prepare the mapping exercise for public release. It was noted that the group would be informed how the tool was modified in response to feedback prior to release.</p>

	<p>SS briefly mentioned the next session will be about Community Benefit Sharing, as we look toward understanding how various models and approaches can work best for the north west.</p> <p>AL closed the meeting.</p>
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Actions

No.	Action	Owner	Due
1	Send Minutes to SRG for one round of feedback	ReCFIT	30 June 2023
2	Provide the Mapping link and supporting information to the SRG on the go live date, for distribution to SRG networks	ReCFIT	30 June 2023