

# Golden Plains Wind Farm

## COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE



## Purpose

THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP (CRG) IS TO:

- Enhance communication between the Golden Plains Wind Farm and the community;
- Encourage community partnerships;
- Ensure the local community benefits as a result of WestWind's projects.

AIMS OF THE COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP (CRG):

- Provide a transparent, representative and accessible forum for community questions related to the project;
- Capture community feedback and suggestions to assist with decision-making for the project;
- Increase understanding about the project within the community; and
- Provide advice to ensure the best application of the community development fund.

SPECIFICALLY, THE CRG WILL:

- Act as a conduit to provide feedback from the wider community;
- Represent community views regarding local impacts and benefits;
- Receive briefings on the progress of the project;
- Provide information about the project to other community members;
- Be involved in the community engagement process in relation to fairness, transparency and accountability, providing opportunities for inclusion, deliberation and influence;
- Provide recommendations to the Golden Plains Wind Farm on relevant aspects of the project to assist in establishing broader community engagement and consultation;
- Provide recommendations regarding the allocation of the community development fund.

## CRG membership

A total CRG membership of 8 members is desirable to achieve diverse representation of stakeholders and community members. In order to ensure a fair representation of the community each community, environment, business or local facility group may only be represented by one CRG member.

# Selection Process

A comprehensive selection process will be undertaken to ensure a wide cross-section of the community are represented on the CRG.

Advertisements calling for nominations will be placed in the local newspapers circulated in the project area, as well as WestWind's website.

People wishing to become CRG members will be required to complete a nomination form, outlining information about themselves, demonstrating any previous community involvement and why they are interested in being a part of the CRG. It is envisaged that the CRG will be made up of 8 individuals.

## ALL NOMINEES MUST:

- Possess a willingness to contribute constructively to meetings;
- Have an ability to look beyond personal interests;
- Demonstrate their ability to represent community interest and provide feedback to the community;
- Demonstrate courteous and respectful behavior towards fellow members and stakeholders.

An independent selection panel will be formed which will be made up of 3 respected and recognised individuals from the region, knowledgeable in business and community matters. This will also include a Golden Plains Wind Farm representative.

After selecting the CRG members, the role of the selection panel will have been completed, and it will be disbanded.

# Terms of Membership

Members agree to commit to a minimum of 24 months, after which time members will be required to re-nominate for the position.

Members agree to commit to attend at least 75% of meetings.

Members agree to behave in respectful manner to all CRG members, project stakeholders and members of the community.

If these terms of membership are not met by any CRG member, they will be asked to leave the CRG and a new member will be sought for that role.

## MEDIA LIAISON

Individual members are free to speak to the media about the project, but as individual community members, not as a spokesperson on behalf of the CRG or the Golden Plains Wind Farm.

## CRG SECRETARIAT

Golden Plains Wind Farm will act as secretariat to the CRG. A company representative will be present at all meetings in an administrative capacity to facilitate the meetings and will not hold a voting position on the CRG.

In their capacity as secretariat, minutes will be taken by the attending Golden Plains Wind Farm representative, and will be distributed to members within 14 days of the meeting. Minutes will then be endorsed by the CRG at the following meeting.

If the Golden Plains Wind Farm does not agree with a recommendation put forward by the CRG, a written explanation will be submitted to the group outlining the reasons for that.

At the first meeting of the CRG, meeting procedures, including frequency of meetings and voting procedures, as well as criteria for funding allocation, will be discussed and confirmed.

## CONTACT US

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