



CLEAN ENERGY FOR ETERNITY INC ABN 39 545 573 281

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7 MARCH 2022, 21 Canning St Bega 6.00 pm

PRESENT- Prue Kelly, Matthew Nott, Warren Yates, David Neyle, Nicky Laws-Herd, Nanette Imsirovic.

Matthew Nott chaired the meeting and welcomed those present

APOLOGIES- Don MacPhee, Bill Southwood, Michael Holland, Andrew McPherson

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST AGM-Accepted unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President gave a verbal report. Despite setbacks and event cancellations due to COVID, CEFE has been able to maintain its program of equipping local RFS sheds with solar and battery installations funded partly via our MOU with Bega Valley Shire Council and partly by on-site live music fund-raising events. Events coming up include a candidates' forum in Bermagui ahead of the forthcoming election and the Tathra Eternity Festival in October. CEFE is playing a key role in discussions concerning two projects that could see our goal of having Tathra 100% powered by renewable energy achieved by 2030

Moved WY Seconded NLH that the President's report be received

SECRETARY'S REPORT

We have had a highly successful year despite COVID setbacks and in the last 12 months I have continued to:

- Maintain information flow between President, Treasurer and members.
- Liaise with Bega Valley Shire Council re ongoing projects.
- Work closely with NSW RFS in Bega Valley Shire.
- Also work closely with Bega Valley Brigades including Quaama, Kiah, Rocky Hall and Brogo by planning CEFE fundraising events for solar/battery installations.
- Plan for future projects and events, including all approvals and COVID requirements.
- Event manage the Tathra Eternity Festival postponed twice from 2020 to October 2022.

I have also introduced our NSW RFS renewable energy program to Eurobodalla Shire through our SHASA Moruya colleagues.

The pumped hydro proposal initiated by our hardworking Bermagui Chapter led by Bill Caldicott and Bill Southwood is moving forward and I thank them for their drive and expertise on behalf of CEFE. Thank you to Nicky Laws-Herd for taking on upgrading our website and social media profiles and to Don McPhee and Nanette Imsirovic for always helping out at CEFE fundraising and other public events

I sincerely hope CEFE can draw on the as yet untapped interest and expertise of our members to expand our community solar projects this year – eg, expansion of the Tathra Community Solar Farm.

Heartfelt thanks to CEFE Inc Treasurer Warren Yates for his great successes in Northern Beaches and his unfailing support and expertise, and to Matthew for his lively and inspiring public performances and for continuing to be the outstanding voice of reason regarding climate change. Our Clean Energy for Eternity Inc Brand is alive, well and thriving.

Prue Kelly
March 7, 2022

Moved NI Seconded DN that the Secretary's report be received

NORTHERN BEACHES CHAPTER REPORT-In 2021 our project has been "Powerhouse Brookvale" The idea is to get as much as possible of the vast area of roof space in the Brookvale industrial zone fitted out with solar. We combined with another local climate group - Zero Emissions Sydney North to form an informal entity called Solar Alliance and devised a strategy based on offering a service provided by volunteer "solar ambassadors" who would provide an analysis of the solar potential of any site (kW capacity of the roof, specific yield in kWh/kWp per annum given the roof orientation and slope and payback time for different installations between 0 and 100% of the roof coverage). We hope that this site specific independent, trustworthy advice about the benefits of solar will spur a lot of businesses into action. The solar ambassador will also advise on finance options, how to deal with landlords and strata owners corporations and make introductions to similar businesses that have already installed solar. We had a big launch on February 28 at 4 Pines Truck Bar in Brookvale with words of support from local politicians Zali Steggall, Rob Stokes and Michael Regan. Requests from businesses have been flowing in ever since as have expressions of interest in being trained as a solar ambassador. The launch, website and brochure printing was funded by a \$5000 grant from Northern Beaches Council obtained on the basis of CEFE's long history and track record.

ClearSky continues to expand. We now have 57 projects with a total capacity of over 10 MW funded by \$15 million from community investors across Australia

BERMAGUI CHAPTER REPORT

In making his apology for being unable to attend the meeting due to adverse weather conditions, Bill Southwood reported that the Bermagui was working with GHD on a concept that would provide water security for the Bega Valley as well as energy self-sufficiency. The collaboration with CaDET (Cobargo and District Energy Transition) continues. The group also assisted the Board of the Four Winds Festival to obtain a grant from the NSW Local Bushfire Recovery Fund for sprinkler system to minimise the risk of damage to the Four Winds site from future bush fires, The sprinklers are driven by pumps powered by batteries charged by solar and are controlled by smoke and heat detectors that communicate via satellite NBN.

TREASURERS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-

The treasurer tabled the audited financial reports as approved by the Committee. Motion that the reports be approved and adopted. Moved PK seconded MN

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS-

There was only one nomination received for each office bearer position, Treasurer-Warren Yates, Secretary-Prue Kelly and President- Matthew Nott. They were unanimously endorsed by all present.

OTHER BUSINESS

-PUBLIC FUND COMMITTEE Warren Yates moved to retain the existing committee, seconded by Prue Kelly

-SOLAR PV FUNDING COMMITTEE Member to remain the same, moved by Warren Yates seconded by Prue Kelly

Expansion of Tathra Community Solar Farm

It was noted that 'filling in the IMAGINE solar would be a low-cost way of increasing renewable energy production in Tathra given the mounting frame was already in place. The existing system is 30 kW which in Winter and on cloudy days cannot meet demand but on Summer sunny days results in export. Filling in the remaining panels would provide a further 60 kW but most of the increased generation would be exported. To store enough energy to power the treatment works through the night would require a battery of significant size and expense. Unfortunately there is at present no cost-effective way of making the excess power generated by the solar farm available to Tathra residents due to current rules under which the National Electricity Market operates – these require all consumers to pay the same network charge per kWh irrespective of whether the power travels across the street or across the country. While there are retailers that allow you to 'provenance' your energy, the fact that the energy cost is less than 1/3 of tariff (the other two components are the network charge and retailer margin) means that there is little cost advantage in buying local energy and you are locked into a single retailer. The regulatory and retail environment is continually changing so worth keeping an eye on. Filling in the TCSF may be a good project at some time in the future.

Solar Powered e-bike charger

Another possible future project could be a solar powered e-bike charger. This could provide a high visibility branding for CEFÉ and renewable energy. We would need a site, solar panels and a battery with suitable housing. Due to the lack of a standard connector a standard 240 V outlet would need to be provided, but this would invite misuse so some way of restricting access to subscribers would be needed

A large solar farm in the Bega valley

WY noted has always been the dream of CEFE. We came close in 2019 when David Neyle, Derek Povel and Don MacPhee along with BVSC staff spent many months working up a proposal for funding from the NSW Regional Community Energy Fund which in the end was not successful. In view of the fact that a second round of this program has been foreshadowed CEFE could learn from those projects which were successful – in Goulburn, Grong Grong, Shoalhaven and Gloucester and be ready with a project when the second round is announced.. Key elements that need be pinned down are 1.) The site, 2.) The connection to the grid, 3.) How revenue will be extracted from the power generated, 4.) How the project will be financed. The answers to 3. and 4. will determine the corporate entity that will need to be set and how governance will work. All successful projects have involved the local Council and a private sector partner (such as Komo) with expertise in design, financing and implementation of large scale solar projects

Community Educational Role of CEFE

DN pointed out that in the not-too-distant future it was likely that properties with solar and batteries could pool their resources to meet most of their energy requirements locally. He agreed to be a CEFE speaker at Science in the Pub this August

The meeting concluded at 7.00 pm

Signed as a true record

Matthew Nott
President