

MINUTES OF ECCO GENERAL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2011

Present: Brian Phillips, Colin Foster, Moya Crowe, R. Miller, Bev. Holland, Phil Stephenson, Michael Horth, Phil Robertson, Rod Holcombe, Bob Hill, Jenny Smith, Tony Smith, Graham Sawyer, Cilla Kinross, Stephen Nugent, Portia Hawke, Simon Wright

Apologies: Peter West, Yvette Black

The August ECCO general meeting was a public meeting concerning creative and innovative renewable energy projects and alternatives to fossil fuelled energy. Following is a report on the meeting. Those requesting further information about the meeting can email ECCO at ecc.orange@gmail.com or ring Nick at 63 62 6827.

Sustainable Cowra: Brian Phillips, Bob Hill and Simon Wright presented a report of the highlights of their attendance at Sustainable Cowra, which was a weekend presentation of innovative approaches to providing energy to communities.

Highlights of the Sustainable Cowra weekend included information about the community funded Hepburn Wind project presented by Brian Phillips, the use of cultivated mallee as a source of fuel for energy generation at the Wallerawang power station presented by Bob Hill and the work done by the Institute of Sustainable Futures at Parkes presented by Simon Wright. Many thanks to Brian, Bob and Simon for attending the conference and reporting on three large scale pioneer alternative energy projects.

The Futuremakers: The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the screening of the documentary “The Futuremakers”, which is a film describing the projects by eminent scientist in Australia who are leading the world on renewable energy. The Futuremakers” describes ground breaking projects in the areas of bio mimicry, photo voltaic solar power, geothermal power, wave power, solar thermal power and the storage of solar energy.

Questions arising from the screening: To be put to Maryella Hatfield, who is the producer of “the Futuremakers”.

- Does the incidental fracturing of rock involved on the production of geothermal power have a detrimental effect in the rock strata in which it occurs?
- Could you inform us what progress has been made on each of the projects covered by the “the Futuremakers” since the movie was made?

Nick to forward the above questions.

Future ECCO dates: Saturday, September 3. Parks Alive tree planting at Ploughman’s Hill estate near the constructed wetlands off Escort way. Commences 10am. Free barbeque between 1pm-2pm. Wear stout shoes and bring appropriate sun protection.

Sunday, September 4: Welcome back to the snipe picnic. Commences 12 noon to whenever. Bring your own picnic lunch and assemble at the small park beside the Ploughman's Valley Wetlands off Stirling Avenue. If you want to look at the snipe bring your gumboots.

Monday, September 12: ECCO committee meeting, 6 Pasadena Place, commencing 7.30pm. Agenda to be forwarded closer to the date.

September 15: Bowen Public School Cultural Garden Fundraiser. At the Orange Function Centre, Eyles Street, 6.30 for 7pm start. Please attend if you possibly are able. ECCO is supporting this project. See attached flyer

September 10-18: Orange Sustainable Living Week. See attached flyer.

September 18: ECCO House and Garden Tour. Please see flyer attached. Volunteers required to hand flyers out at the Orange farmers Market on September 10. Anyone who would be able to hand out a small number of flyers contact me. Sustainable Living Week has printed 200 for distribution.

September 21: ECCO Annual General Meeting. To be held at the function room at the Park View Hotel commencing 7.30. Please attend. New blood in executive positions urgently needed.

Enquiries: Nick King 63 62 6827 or email ecco.orange@gmail.com

Nick King Secretary.