



AGL NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING No. 21 HELD AT AGL's NEWCASTLE GAS STORAGE FACILITY, HEXHAM AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO-CONFERENCING ON THURSDAY 1 JUNE 2023 AT 10am

PRESENT	NAME	ORGANISATION
	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Ken Page (KP)	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens
	Kourosh Maleklou (KM)	AGL - Asset Manager for NGSF
	Kevin Taylor (KT)*	AGL – Head of Generation (Gas & Renewables)
	Joanne Ferguson (JF)	AGL – Community Relations Coordinator
	John Moraitis (JM)*	AGL – Environment Manager
APOLOGIES	Mayor, Cr Ryan Palmer	Port Stephens Council
	Robyn Parker	Tomago Aluminium
	John Simpson	Hunter Water Delegate
	Audrey Koosmen	Hunter Wildlife Rescue (NATF)
	Dianne Ball	Wahroonga Aboriginal Corporation
	Arianna Henty (AH)	AGL – Land & Approvals Manager
ABSENT	Representative	Hunter Business Chamber
	Representative	Port Stephens Koalas

*Attended via video-conferencing.


The CDG meeting was opened at 10.12am.

Acknowledgement of Country - "AGL recognises the Traditional Owners of the lands on which they work and they pay their respect to their Elders past, present and emerging."

WELCOME	LA welcomed all attendees to the AGL Newcastle Gas Storage Facility Community Dialogue Group (CDG) being held on site.													
APOLOGIES	As listed above.													
DECLARATIONS	LA advised that she is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Planning engaged by AGL to chair this CDG.	No changes to members' previous declarations.												
BUSINESS ARISING	<p>The minutes from the previous meeting held on 23 February 2023 were finalised and sent to members on 9 March 2023. There were three action items – which are ongoing:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ITEM</th> <th>ISSUE</th> <th>BY WHOM</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Keep CDG informed of the sale of NGSF (ongoing)</td> <td>KT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Keep CDG informed about the highway upgrade (ongoing)</td> <td>KM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Keep CDG informed about the proposed Tomago Battery pathway</td> <td>AH</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ITEM	ISSUE	BY WHOM	1	Keep CDG informed of the sale of NGSF (ongoing)	KT	2	Keep CDG informed about the highway upgrade (ongoing)	KM	3	Keep CDG informed about the proposed Tomago Battery pathway	AH	
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	<p>KM provided an update from the last meeting where he reported the break-in at NGSF on Christmas Eve. Site security has been upgraded with additional cameras and barriers being installed.</p> <p>Another issue that AGL is taking very seriously is Cyber-Security. As a critical infrastructure industry they have introduced important measures to safe guard their operations.</p>	
CORRESPONDENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28/2/23 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review. • 9/3/23 - Email to members with the final version of the February and presentation. • 4/4/23 – Email to members advising that the scoping paper for the Tomago Battery Energy Storage System is not on the DPE Major Projects portal. Link provided. • 19/4/23 – Email to neighbours of AGL NGSF inviting them to join the CDG (approx. 20) • 19/4/23 – Letter to Sweet Water Grove management as well as its resident’s committee inviting them to join the CDG. • 26/4/23 – Letter/Email to Hunter Business Chamber asking them to replace Peter Gesling on the CRG. • 26/5/23 – Email to Sweet Water Grove following up on invitation. • 29/5/23 – Email to Hunter Business Chamber following up on invitation. • 29/5/23 – Email to members confirming CDG with meeting notice, agenda, correspondence and providing video-link. • 31/5/23 – Email to members with the reminder for this meeting, video link and directions to site. 	As provided with meeting notice – emailed 29/5/23.
NEWCASTLE GAS STORAGE FACILITY GENERAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major incident, MTIs or LTIs • Workforce re-structure commenced - ongoing • Site security upgrades completed • Cyber security upgrades completed • Major maintenance activities completed as planned • Low Pressure continued till last week (Jemena/APA maintenance) • New EA negotiations ongoing <p>KM advised that RMS have decided to move the road instead of moving the pipeline. Currently in discussions regarding distances required between the road and the pipeline.</p>	Slide 4
ENVIRONMENT UPDATE (JM)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Emergency response exercise completed (amine spill) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review an update Pollution Incident Response Management Plan • Remove main office and main conference room from the controlled document distribution list • Add updated PIRMP to AEL • Remove outdated copies of PIRMP from control room and main office 2 NGSF Drainage Assessment (AECOM) meeting held – no perceived issues for NGSF 3 NGSF Ponds – maintenance requirements being reviewed (liner integrity unknown) 	Slide 5

	<p>4 Emissions monitoring undertaken this week (H101 heater), and upcoming H501 A, B, C during winter</p> <p>5 Licence amendment successful – no further noise monitoring required for NGSF unless requested by regulator</p> <p>6 Medowie offset property – regulator inspection week commencing 19 June (I will be onsite)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Baiting to be undertaken soon for feral cats and dogs b) Fencing repairs likely to be required c) Slashing of access tracks <p>Discussions on vandalism from 4WD illegally entering the site.</p>	<p>Action: JM to send through some photos of the Medowie offset property.</p>
<p>NGSF COMMUNITY</p>	<p>JF provided an update on the Round 2 – FY23 Local Community Investment Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunter Region Botanic Gardens - \$4,545.45 Upgrade signage for visitors and safety. Direction signage particularly in natural areas to help people keep their bearings and feel safe. • Family and Neighbourhood Services - \$3,500.00 – Support Hampers for DV, school lunchbox hampers, sleeping rough hampers and birthday & baby hampers. • Bikers for Kids Newcastle, Toy Run - \$2,000.00 Family Day Event. Support of the Toy Run Family Fund Day. Contribution to costs of rides and entertainment. • Opera Hunter - \$5,000.00 Sponsorship of Puccini's La Boheme. Supporting 6 performances and expecting 1,400 patron as Gold Sponsor. • Northern NSW Westpac Helicopter Rescue Services - \$1,460.00 – training mannequin. Purchase of a Lifetec water rescue training mannequin for crew training use. • Survivor's R Us Incorporated - \$3,500 Dignity Hampers. Support the purchase of dignity hampers to help alleviate some of the community's cost of living pressures. 	<p>Slide 6</p>
<p>LIDDELL POWER STATION CLOSURE</p>	<p>JF provided attendees with an overview of the events, media coverage and stories associated with the Liddell Power Station closure, including the showcasing and inclusion of past employees.</p> <p>KT stated that the last days at Liddell were emotional however, the lead up was a great celebration of the Power Station providing energy for NSW and livelihoods for the community.</p> <p>KT advised that the future of Liddell is transitioning from coal to renewables. The Hunter Energy Hub will reuse and repurpose the existing infrastructure.</p>	<p>Slides 8 - 13</p>

PROPOSED TOMAGO BIG BATTERY	JF provided an update from AH regarding the proposed Tomago Big Battery project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is continuing. When finalised it will be lodged with the Department of Planning & Environment (DPE). • Consultation with the Koala Strategy Committee has occurred. • Port Stephens Council are happy to be kept informed. 	
GENERAL BUSINESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KP advised of recent botanical issue with rare grevilleas which are on the boundary of the NGSF property. Investigations should be resolved in spring, when they are flowering. The HRBG has been very lucky to have access to a leading Grevillia expert. • KP advised that there is scientific survey works on fungi being undertaken in the area. KP stated that they may need assistance with accessing disturbed areas. 	
NEXT MEETING	 Thursday 28 September 2023 - Commencing at 10am.	

Meeting closed at 11.18am with LA thanking members for their attendance and participation. Members then undertook a tour of the Facility under the guidance of KM.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Keep CDG informed of the sale of NGSF (ongoing)	KT
2	Keep CDG informed about the highway upgrade (ongoing)	KM
3	Keep CDG informed about the proposed Tomago Battery pathway (ongoing)	AH
4	Provide photos of the Medowie Offset property	JM