



AGL NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE HUNTER REGION BOTANIC GARDENS, HEXHAM ON THURSDAY 4TH JUNE 2020 AT 10AM

PRESENT	NAME	ORGANISATION
	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Ken Page (KP)	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens
	Ernesto Calderon (EC)	AGL – Community Relations Manager
	Arianna Henty (AH)	AGL – Senior Land & Approvals Manager
	Cr Paul Le Mottee (PLM)	Port Stephens Council alternate delegate
	David Mudd (DM)	Environmental Business Partner – NSW Gas Operations (left at 10.33am)
	Robyn Parker (RP)	Tomago Aluminium
	Rebecca Marcus (RH)	HSE Contractor Management & Major Projects
	Kourosh Maleklou (KM)	AGL's Operations Manager for NGSF
GUEST	Carolyn Chenery (CC)	Department of Employment (federal)
APOLOGIES	Andrew Smith	Worimi Aboriginal Land Council
	Cr Ryan Palmer	Mayor - Port Stephens Council
	Dianne Ball	Wahroonga Aboriginal Corporation
	John Simpson	Hunter Water Delegate
	Audrey Koosmen	Hunter Wildlife Rescue (NATF)
	Andrew Carman	AGL – Power Station Project Manager
	Nicola Gardner	AGL – HSE (on maternity leave)
ABSENT	Carmel Northwood	Port Stephens Koalas
	Peter Gesling	Hunter Business Chamber Representative

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams (video conferencing). The presentation was emailed to all CCC members, the evening prior to the meeting date and forms part of these minutes.

The CDG meeting was opened at 10.03am.

WELCOME	LA welcomed all attendees to the AGL Community Dialogue Group (CDG) and introduced all attendees joining the meeting via video-conferencing, thanking them for participating in this forum.			
APOLOGIES	As listed.			
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	ITEM	ISSUE	BY WHOM	1 Covered in presentation (slide 10). 2 Covered in presentation. 3 Thanks to PLM for following this up with PSC. PLM advised that he had been told different information by Council officers & enquired whether
	1	Advise purpose of proposed storage shed at NGSF.	TA	
	2	Provide advice on NGSF's bushfire preparedness against possible ember attack.	TA	
	3	Enquire with PSC Legal Team on expediting easement applications.	PLM	
	4	Report back to CDG with outcome of LCIP applications	EC	

		<p>there has been a satisfactory outcome. AH responded that Council is now in correspondence with AGL.</p> <p>4 (Complete – this was emailed to members on 25/5/20)</p>
CORRESPONDENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10/3/20 - Draft minutes to members for review. 20/3/20 – Email to members with the finalised minutes. 4/5/20 – Email to members with the RTS document lodged with DPIE for the Newcastle Power Station project 25/5/20 – Email to members regarding necessary changes to the LCIP to adapt with the COVID-19 pandemic. Also included the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for the upcoming meeting to be held via teleconferencing. 26/5/20 – Apology from Mayor Ryan Palmer. LA requested if Cr PLM could attend as Council's alternate. 27/5/20 – Email to members, advising of AGL's Farmers and Business Assist programs (solar and drought relief). 1/6/20 – Email to members with the log in details on how to join this meeting. 3/6/20 – Email to members with the presentation for this meeting. 	<p>As provided with meeting notice – emailed 25/5/20 with 2 additional items.</p>
NEWCASTLE POWER STATION PROJECT (Slides 6-8)	<p>AH provided the CDG with the latest news and next steps for the Newcastle Power Station Project, which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Workstream/Timeline update A summary of the submissions received during the exhibition phase and the "Response to Submissions" submitted to DPIE. Explained that DPIE has requested additional information. <p>PLM commented that he had not heard of anyone being vehemently opposed to the development. AH responded that there were no outright objections, mainly just Agency concerns with aviation (Dept of Defence are now satisfied). AGL has a meeting with DPIE next week to map out other outstanding matters including air, noise, traffic etc.</p>	<p>See separate presentation.</p>
NEWCASTLE GAS STORAGE FACILITY (Slides 10 & 11)	<p>KM provided a general update of the gas facility, including the Environmental Update.</p> <p>In response to Item 2 of the Action Items from the last CDG, KM advised that bush fire assessment audits are conducted in Autumn with actions undertaken around August/September. The audit is undertaken every 2 years, but maintenance is carried out annually.</p> <p>PLM enquired what measures are in place in catastrophic circumstances (ember attacks). KM advised that there is a fire emergency system in place with tanks and sprinklers around the site, which are tested regularly. The NSW Fire Service also review the site annually. (Further discussion in general business.)</p>	<p>See presentation.</p>
LOCAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (Slides 12 & 13)	<p>EC provided CDG members with an update on the LCIP for 2020, which included AGL's NGSF COVID-19 Support Fund.</p>	<p>See presentation.</p>

GENERAL BUSINESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC advised that AGL has been working through the COVID-19 pandemic based on essential and non-essential teams. Many employees are working from home, with not much activity occurring on site. • DM advised that AGL is represented on the Hunter Bush Fire Management Committee (HBFMC). Hunter Water is also a member. The committee is putting together a strategic fire management plan which will include Tomago Aluminium. They will consider back burning activities as a joint operation. AGL have covered ember attack scenarios on site. Town water is available and would be used. • DM further advised that the plant has been designed for different scenarios (1:100 year) and several layers of protection have been included to keep the tanks cool. The tank is big enough to provide enough for firefighting teams to take care of it. There is venting in place and the building is rated to handle heat and explosion. AGL are confident that personnel will be safe. • KP advised that HRBG will be reopening in a couple of weeks. 	<p>DM to contact RP to discuss Tomago Aluminium's involvement.</p> <p>AGL to keep CDG informed of the outcomes of the HBFMC.</p>
NEXT MEETING	<p>📅 Thursday 3 September, 2020 at the HRBG, commencing 10am. Arrangements will be confirmed by LA closer to the date, based on the current government directives for the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	

Meeting closed at 10.40am with LA thanking members for their attendance and contribution.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	BY WHOM
1	Keep CDG members updated on Hunter Bush Fire Management Plan	DM