



AGL NEWCASTLE GAS STORAGE FACILITY COMMUNITY DIALOGUE GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE HUNTER REGION BOTANIC GARDENS, HEXAM ON WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2019 AT 10AM

PRESENT	NAME	ORGANISATION
	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Trevor Anderson (TA)	AGL's Operations Manager for NGSF
	Cr Ryan Palmer (RP)	Mayor - Port Stephens Council (<i>arrived at 10.10am</i>)
	John Simpson (JS)	Hunter Water Delegate (<i>arrived at 10.13am</i>)
	Neil Cooke (NC)	AGL – Newcastle Power, Project Manager
	Nicola Gardner (NG)	AGL – Environment Business Partner
	Ken Page (KP)	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens (Chairman)
	Robyn Parker (RP)	Tomago Aluminium
	Ernesto Caldarone (EC)	AGL – Community Relations Manager
	Arianna Henty (AH)	AGL – Senior Land & Approvals Manager
	Ron Land (RL)	Port Stephens Koalas (alternate delegate) <i>left at 10.17am</i>
APOLOGIES	Andrew Smith	Worimi Aboriginal Land Council
	Geoff Dingle	Community Representative
	Peter Gesling	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens Representative & Hunter Business Chamber Representative
	Audrey Koosmen	Hunter Wildlife Rescue (NATF)
	Carmel Northwood	Port Stephens Koalas
ABSENT	Dianne Ball	Wahroonga Aboriginal Corporation

The CDG meeting was opened at 10.03am.

WELCOME	LA welcomed all attendees to the AGL Community Dialogue Group (CDG) and introduced Ernesto Calderone & Arianna Henty from AGL.	
<i>The Chair then suspended the business of the meeting to bring forward the Local Community Investment Program Presenters who were on site. Given the cold blustery weather and nine separate groups (involving at least 40 additional attendees) it was agreed that this was appropriate.</i>		
LOCAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (LCIP) – ROUND 2	<p>EC advised that there were nine community groups presenting to the CDG today, in support of their funding applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hunter Breast Cancer Foundation ○ Meals on Wheels ○ Merewether Bowling Club ○ Nelson Bay Croquet Club ○ Seaside Singers ○ Tanilba Bay Senior Citizens ○ Tilligerry Arts Group ○ Tilligerry Community Association ○ Tomaree Neighbourhood Centre. <p>EC provided members with a written summary of each group's application, which included whether they had been successful previously in receiving grant funds, what their proposal was for, the amount for the project and the amount requested from AGL.</p> <p>Each group was welcomed individually and provided a 5 minute timeframe to present to the CDG.</p>	The first group's presentation commenced at 10.20am and the last group finished at 11.28am.

	<p>It was noted that the applications received exceeded the amount of money available in the LCIP. Accordingly, following consideration of all applications, the members agreed to the following disbursement of funding:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Hunter Breast Cancer Foundation</td> <td>Successful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Meals on Wheels</td> <td>Unsuccessful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Merewether Bowling Club</td> <td>Unsuccessful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Nelson Bay Croquet Club</td> <td>Successful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Seaside Singers</td> <td>Unsuccessful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Tanilba Bay Senior Citizens*</td> <td>Successful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Tilligerry Arts Group*</td> <td>Successful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Tilligerry Community Association</td> <td>Unsuccessful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9. Tomaree Neighbourhood Centre</td> <td>Successful</td> </tr> </table> <p>*TA advised that AGL had three reasonably new large inverter air conditioners that could be donated. Accordingly it was resolved to provide one to the Tanilba Bay Senior Citizens and two to the Tilligerry Arts Group. The monies allocated to these groups will assist in the installation of the air conditioners, insulation, etc.</p> <p>Action: EC to advise each group of their success or otherwise and thank them for their application.</p>	1. Hunter Breast Cancer Foundation	Successful	2. Meals on Wheels	Unsuccessful	3. Merewether Bowling Club	Unsuccessful	4. Nelson Bay Croquet Club	Successful	5. Seaside Singers	Unsuccessful	6. Tanilba Bay Senior Citizens*	Successful	7. Tilligerry Arts Group*	Successful	8. Tilligerry Community Association	Unsuccessful	9. Tomaree Neighbourhood Centre	Successful	<p>It was agreed that all applications were worthy of support, however, the committee took into consideration groups that had previously been successful in receiving grant funding and funding opportunities also available via other sources, ie Port Stephens Council.</p>
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<i>The business of the meeting recommenced at 11.43am.</i>																				
APOLOGIES	As listed. LA acknowledged the recent passing of Jill Dean from HWR, recognising her contribution to the community and the environment. Further, that AK had asked LA I extend a thank you to AGL for the flowers sent to the HWR.	Accepted.																		
DECLARATIONS	LA advised that she is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E) and engaged by AGL to chair this CDG.	LA asked members if there were any changes to their previous declarations. No changes.																		
BUSINESS ARISING	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">ITEM</th> <th style="width: 60%;">ISSUE</th> <th style="width: 30%;">WHO</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td>Advise the CDG how far drilling can occur underground before coming on top of the land. (Included in presentation*)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NC</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ITEM	ISSUE	WHO	1	Advise the CDG how far drilling can occur underground before coming on top of the land. (Included in presentation*)	NC	No other business arising.												
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1	Advise the CDG how far drilling can occur underground before coming on top of the land. (Included in presentation*)	NC																		
CORRESPONDENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20/2/19 - Draft minutes to members for review. • 28/2/19 – Email to members with the finalised minutes. • 19/4/19 – Email from AK advising of JD’s passing, which was passed on to CCC members. • 16/5/19 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for this meeting. • 28/5/19 – Email to members with a reminder for this meeting. 	As provided in meeting notice with one additional items.																		
NEWCASTLE POWER STATION PROJECT	<p>NC provided an update of the power station project by commencing with a refresher summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project is for a new peaking power station in the Tomago region of Newcastle/Port Stephens. • Consistent with AGL’s move to a renewable energy mix. • Would be used for peak demand periods or whenever renewables aren’t available. • Expected to be operational by the end of 2022 (retirement of Liddell Coal Fired Power Station). • More information is available via: www.agl.com.au/newcastle-power-project 	See separate presentation.																		

	<p>*NC showed on the aerial map where the horizontal drilling will be undertaken (from Old Punt Rd), advising that the drilling can go 200-300m before having to come to the top.</p> <p>JS sought clarification on which pipeline this would be, with NC confirming it was a high pressure gas line, further advising that following recent discussions with RMS regarding its proposed \$1.8B upgrade for the M1, that the connection and gas line location would be adjusted to support the RMS's design.</p> <p>The project was declared a Critical State Significant Infrastructure in late 2018 and the preliminary environmental assessment was lodged in January 2019.</p> <p>NC advised that AGL propose to lodge the EIS with DP&E for an adequacy review in late August, early September 2019. It is likely that the proposal will be advertised for 30-60 days. KP commented that this was a good timeframe, well before the holiday period. NC advised that hard copies of the documentation will be available at both Newcastle City Council, Port Stephens Council and other venues to be determined (local libraries, etc).</p> <p>Following exhibition and addressing the response to submissions, it is hoped that approval for the project will occur in May 2020.</p> <p>The EIS details the anticipated potential environmental impacts of the development on the environment, as well as proposing avoidance, mitigation and offset measures. The following assessments and studies are being prepared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Heritage Assessment • Air Quality and GHG Assessment • Biodiversity Assessment • Cumulative Effects Analysis • EMF Technical Study • Hazard and Risk Technical Study • Land Use • Noise and Vibration Assessment • Non-Aboriginal Heritage Assessment • Project Description • Social and Economic • Soil and Contamination Investigations • Surface Water, Groundwater and Hydrology • Traffic and Transport Assessment • Visual Assessment; and • Waste. <p>NC outlined the proposed community and stakeholder engagement, stating that AGL will continue to engage with key community stakeholders, nearby residents and business owners about the proposal to solicit feedback and provide updates on latest developments and next steps.</p> <p>Proposing market stalls, face-to-face meetings, and presentations to community groups, community information</p>	
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	<p>days, drop-in sessions and stakeholder briefings, presentations for community groups.</p> <p>AGL expect to go to tender for the construction of the power station in July 2019 as the project will require a two year construction period. The completion of the project should coincide with the shutdown of the Liddell Power Station in 2022 and allow for planning for the connection into the grid. The tender proposal will include requirements for local industry participation and an indigenous consultation plan.</p> <p>NC enquired with KP what level of engagement that HRBG would like to receive in relation to the Biodiversity Plan. KP advised that he was happy to read the documents due to his professional background. NC asked if it would be appropriate to hold a separate meeting with HRBG to present on the biodiversity issues. It was recommended that Port Stephens Koalas and Hunter Wildlife Rescue may be invited to this meeting as well.</p> <p>TA asked KP whether HRBG would be interested in salvaging any plants prior to clearing. KP advised that if there was something worth salvaging, however, it was agreed that most of the plant species were not significant.</p>	
NEWCASTLE GAS STORAGE FACILITY	<p>TA provided attendees with an update on the NGSF</p> <p>Environmental Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vegetation management including weed control and asset protection zone at the facility ➤ Web page updated, removing outdated construction information ➤ Spring property inspection and weed control at Meadowie offset properties ➤ Monitoring environmental performance of Tail Gas Project work (no environmental incidents) ➤ EPA annual compliance audit carried out with positive feedback ➤ AGL internal audit carried out for storm water management on site. <p>Providing photographs on the following activities that have occurred recently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4 yearly testing and calibration of tank top safety relief valves ➤ Loss of containment drill undertaken ➤ Installation of Variable Speed Drive (VSD) infrastructure for main refrigeration compressor. 	
LOCAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM FY 2020 - ROUND 1	<p>EC advised that the next round of the LCIP will be advertised in November 2019 and considered early 2020. Advertising will be carried out in the following publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raymond Terrace News of the Area • Bay News of the Area • Port Stephens Examiner 	It was noted that the increase in applications is assisting with a positive impact for small community groups in the area.
GENERAL BUSINESS	<p>Nil. However, KP advised that he would be undertaking a site tour with EC and extended the invitation to the other members to join them following the meeting.</p>	
NEXT MEETING	<p>It was agreed to continue with quarterly meetings, with the next meeting to be held just prior to lodging the EIS with DP&E for adequacy.</p>	

	The next meeting will be held on Friday 6 September 2019 at the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens, commencing at 10am .	
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Meeting closed at 12.20pm with LA thanking members for their attendance and contribution in the assessment of the community funding presentations.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Advise all applicants for LCIP funding of their success or otherwise from Round 2 considerations.	EC