

MINUTES OF AGL TORRENS ISLAND COMMUNITY DIALOGUE GROUP MEETING
Held on Tuesday 15th August 2023 (10:30 – 11:30 am)
Adelaide Business Hub at 6 Todd Street Port Adelaide

1. Opening and acknowledgement

Chair Barbara opened the meeting at 10.30am and acknowledged that we are meeting on the lands of the Kurna people and pay our respects to their elder's past, present and emerging.

Barbara outlined the purpose of the meeting and her expectations around meeting guidelines – that discussions be respectful and that members refrain from interrupting other members.

Members each introduced themselves and the organisations they represented.

2. Attendance and apologies

Present: Barbara Chappell, Alex Hayter, Steve Vines, Stephen Waites, Iacovos Digenis, Johan Revalk, Tony Bazeley, Julie Ann Stoll, Adrian Wotton, Kevin Taylor, David Russell, Antony Evans, George Karlis.

Apology: Julie La Rosa

3. Opening Matters – Terms of Reference

David Russell provided an overview of the Torrens Island CDG Terms of Reference (ToRs).

- Based on ToRs we have for equivalent groups at other sites.
 - Objectives include: effective communication channel, develop understanding Torrens operations, ensure that stakeholders are able to contribute feedback, Strengthen partnerships with community groups
 - Membership includes Chair, Representative groups and AGL staff to provide updates
 - Frequency – 4 per year
 - Term – 2 years
 - Members privacy will be protected
 - Meeting protocol
 - Acknowledgement of Country
 - AGL will consider all advice provided
 - Notes will be distributed after
 - No member can make public statements on behalf of the CDG
 - Conflicts must be declared
 - While the group is not a decision making body when a vote is required quorum will always exist regardless of numbers in attendance
- ACTION: Barbara to share ToRs with members and members to provide feedback within 2 weeks.

4. Information Session - Current operations and Torrens Energy Hub plan

- Kevin Taylor provided an overview of current operations at Torrens, including
 - B Station units still in service and the role they play in the grid
 - The plan for the closure of B Station
 - Operations at Barker Inlet Power Station
 - Update on the construction of the 250 Megawatt Torrens Battery
 - Overview of the concept to redevelop Torrens into an industrial energy hub
 - Projects in partnership with Kurna Traditional Owners on Torrens Island
- Tony Bazeley asked if expansion plans would impact the native bitterbush butterfly that exists on Torrens Island, as well as the exact location on the Island of the butterfly colonies. George Karlis responded that the butterflies were outside the perimeter of the plant, but could come back with more info.
ACTION: Provide update on bitterbush butterfly at next CDG meeting.

- It was asked if the causeway could be reopened to provide flow once B Station closes and cooling water is no longer required for the plant. Response provided that this could be difficult because access to site still required, and also the causeway is State Government owned.
ACTION: Provide update at next meeting on causeway ownership, potential to reopen and what would be required.
- Iacovos Digenis asked what employment opportunities there are for local workforce in hubs plan. Kevin explained that currently there are 140 people employed at Torrens. Some of these would be required to operate Barker Inlet and the Battery post-closure, but AGL hope to secure further employment opportunities through new projects on the site as part of Hubs plan.
- Tony Bazeley asked how access is determined for Torrens Island and if this could be simplified. Torrens staff explained that there is a public road.
ACTION: Clarify process for public access to Torrens through security.

5. Information session: Torrens A Station Decommissioning and Demolition

- Antony Evans provided an update on decommissioning and demolition of Torrens A Station, including:
 - Make safe work in preparation for demo, including removing energy and oils from plant
 - Relocation of some services still required for the site
 - Overview of the schedule of works
 - Plan for asbestos removal including potential of using plastic 'bubble' to prevent escape
 - Plan for demo of stuck – can't use explosives, have to munch down from top
 - Intention to reuse as much infrastructure as possible to recycle 91% of scrap steel
- Steve Vines asked about the dolphin sanctuary and whether PCBs could impact dolphins. Antony explained that a licensed contractor is used for removal of PCBs and intention is to leave site better than we found it

6. Environmental update

- George Karlis provided an environmental update, including:
 - Outlining the unique Torrens environment
 - Overview of air monitoring procedures
 - Overview of ground water monitoring and management of low levels of PFAS (Poly Fluoro Alkyl Substance) in dirt and groundwater from legacy firefighting activities
 - A small amount of process effluent water is discharged but this is treated by the wetlands with water quality monitored as per the Environment Protection Licence– some low-level chlorination of the seawater pumped through the plant to cool the condensers is required to protect the ductwork from algal growth in the warmer water
- Tony Bazeley asked about vermin on the Island – specifically rabbits – and what could be done to control numbers. Kevin Taylor and Antony Evans advised that rabbits are not often seen on the Island.
ACTION: Investigate options for vermin control on the Island.

7. Next meeting

- David Russell invited members to attend Torrens Island for next meeting including a site tour – members agreed.
- Agenda items for next meeting:
 - Ratification of ToRs
 - Update on bitterbush butterfly on the Island
 - Deep dive into reuse in A Station demolition process
 - Update on public access to Torrens Island

- Discussion on possibility of allowing flow through the causeway after B Station closes
- Vermin control/invasive species on Torrens Island

Proposed date for the next meeting is:

Monday 13th November 2023 at 11:00 am for a 2.5 hour site visit.

- 15 mins site induction and safety briefing
- 1 hour meeting
- 30 mins lunch
- 45 mins site tour