

COMMUNIQUE 18

NARRABRI GAS PROJECT COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC)

About the CCC

The Narrabri Gas Project Community Consultative Committee (CCC) brings together community, industry, local and state governments to explore and discuss issues relating to the exploration and extraction of natural gas in the Narrabri Gas Project area.

Chaired by the NSW Land and Water Commissioner, members of the dialogue include Narrabri Shire Councillors, independent community members, senior Santos representatives and senior agency officers from the Division of Resources and Energy (DRE), the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), the Department of Primary Industries Water (DPI Water) and the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E).

Summary of 11 April and 9 May Meetings

- GISERA Project - *Human Health effects of Coal Seam Gas Activity Study Design*
- Santos Operations Update
- EPA Monthly Update
- EPA Presentation – 3D Theatre Demonstration (May 2017)

The Chair provided an update to committee members at the April 2017 meeting on the Regional Community Benefit Fund framework that is administered by the NSW Rural Assistance Authority. The fund is triggered when money is contributed by a company. There was general discussion amongst members in relation to the representation on the local committee that will have input to the disbursement of funds and how the community must work together to gain benefits for the broader community.

A Council representative committed to seeking more information through their information channels and reported back at the May 2017 meeting that from a discussion with Member for Barwon, they understand that the fund is activated with payment from Santos and that the fund is unlikely to be triggered until the EIS process was complete. There was discussion amongst members that the community could use the time available to have projects 'ready to go'.

The Chair and committee members welcomed Dr Andrea Walton, GISERA Research Scientist from CSIRO Adaptive Social and Economic Systems Program to the April 2017 meeting. Dr Walton provided the committee with an overview of Phase 1 of the GISERA Project *Human Health effects of Coal Seam Gas Activity Study Design*. The initial phase of the project is to plan the overall study framework and this is expected to be completed by September 2017.

GISERA will be seeking community input to the project through a workshop and welcome feedback on their proposed project design. The Chair and community members commented that CCC members should be included in community representation and were happy to participate. There was general discussion amongst members at the meeting about the project framework and how the project will be able to differentiate health impacts (physical and mental) by different industries with such a diverse mix in the Narrabri area of agriculture, mining and gas, amongst others. A copy of the presentation was distributed to members and is available on the Narrabri Gas Project website and a copy of the overall project proposal is available on the GISERA website.

Dr Walton was invited to provide an update at the May 2017 meeting, and at that meeting advised members that initial discussions had been held with some CCC representatives and other community members for input to scoping the activity study for the project and that GISERA were organising a workshop for further project scoping on 22 and 23 May in Narrabri. There was general discussion amongst members in relation to a literature review that was part of the project and a member noted that examples from United States were not seen as relevant to NSW due to the differences in context, communities, geology, and regulatory framework. Examples from Camden and Surat Basin as proposed

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were seen to be more relevant. Members requested further information on literature review prior to the planned workshop so that they could read background material. A copy of the presentation was distributed to members for dissemination to their respective groups.

In general business at the May 2017 meeting, a member had a question in relation to a recent media article about the Queensland Hunter Pipeline that referred to gas from the Narrabri Gas Project being transported by that pipeline. Peter Mitchley advised that Santos is not working with Queensland Hunter Pipeline and that gas from the Narrabri Gas Project is planned to be transported to Sydney via the proposed APA Western Slopes Pipeline that will link into the Moomba to Sydney pipeline as previously advised.

Narrabri Gas Project CCC member, Mr Jack Warnock advised at the May 2017 meeting that he has also been appointed as a representative to the Whitehaven Maules Creek Project Community Consultative Committee.

As a standing agenda item, a Santos representative distributed hard copies of the Monthly Activity Updates that were also emailed to members each month and answered questions arising from the update. Copies of the Monthly Activity Updates for April and May are available from the Narrabri Gas Project website.

An EPA representative provided copies of the monthly Narrabri CCC EPA Newsletters to members for March 2017 and April 2017, with the final versions available from the EPA website and via the subscription service. At the May 2017 meeting, there was a request from members that it continue to be emailed directly as part of monthly CCC papers. EPA advised that they were encouraging people to use the online links to demonstrate that newsletter is valued by the community and to date 22 have enrolled for the subscription service for the newsletter. The EPA methane emissions study in NSW had been distributed to CCC members out of session as an action from the March 2017 meeting. The EPA report of produced water pond assessments undertaken in NSW was distributed to members at May 2017 meeting and will be available on the EPA website and the Narrabri Gas Project website.

At the May 2017 meeting, the EPA demonstrated their new 3D Theatre to committee members at their EPA Office in Maitland Street, Narrabri. The 3D Theatre is a portable theatre that will be used for training staff and is an innovative way of showing a visual 3D simulation of a gas well and how the subsurface geological profile appears.

The Narrabri Gas Project CCC meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

Please see the following table for each nominated community/industry group delegate contact details:

Name	Organisation	Contact details
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NOTE: The content contained within the document above is a record of the Narrabri Gas Project Community Consultative Committee meeting. The views expressed are not necessarily endorsed by all Committee members.