

# COMMUNIQUE 28

## NARRABRI GAS PROJECT COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC)

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### 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 Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC), the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), and the Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

### Summary of 27 September 2018 meeting

- Santos Update
- Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Update
- Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Update

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting. A Santos representative provided copies of the September Monthly Activity Update that is emailed to members each month and answered questions arising from the update. A member asked if the irrigation had recommenced at the Leewood property since last meeting and a Santos representative responded that it hadn't as the administrative matter in relation to the water use approval had not yet been resolved. A member asked a question in relation to the Landholder Incentive Fund and Santos responded to provide information to the committee on the Fund.

An EPA representative provided a draft copy of the monthly Narrabri CCC EPA Newsletter to members for July/August 2018 with the final newsletter being available from the EPA website and via the subscription service. An EPA representative advised that a decision on Recommendation 9 of the Final Report of the Independent Review of Coal Seam Gas Activities in NSW in relation to *Environmental risk & responsibility and insurance arrangements for the NSW CSG industry* is expected by end of the year.

A member requested that GISERA be invited to the next CCC meeting to provide further information on well decommissioning and *CSG induced groundwater impacts in the Pilliga region: prediction uncertainty, data-worth and optimal monitoring strategies* reports. A discussion amongst committee members concluded that the invitation would not be extended at this point as members were comfortable with the level of information received from presentations to the committee on well decommissioning earlier this year and the various reports distributed to members on the subject.

A DPE representative advised the committee that Department of Industry (DoI) Water were in the process of tendering for the installation of monitoring bores in the Gunnedah Basin as part of the *Water Monitoring Strategy for Coal Basins in NSW – Gunnedah Basin* project. A representative from DoI Water will provide the committee with a presentation on the project in early 2019 when the tendering process is complete.

DPE advised that water samples are being collected from the Plumb Road monitoring bores from the Digby, Purlewaugh and Pilliga formations from depths of 336 – 640 metres. Information from monitoring bores will be available from the Government database in due course and will include

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pressure monitoring and water analysis results. The bore installation project requires an environmental assessment and approval in the form of a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and the REF will document the sites of the proposed bore installation works.

A DPE representative provided an update on the assessment of the NGP EIS and advised the committee that the various *Agency Advice on Response to Submissions* were now available on the DPE Major Projects website. The Water Expert Panel has requested further information. The members of the Expert Panel have been engaged specifically for this project. It is not a statutory panel and the members are experts in their particular field.

The Chair tabled a letter and made a brief statement to the committee in relation to the response to the Conference Secretariat for the Coal Seam Gas and Public Health Conference.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 29 November 2018.

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contact details</b>
David Scilley	NSW Farmers	david.scilley@gmail.com
Conrad Bolton	North West Local Land Services	conrad.bolton@lls.nsw.gov.au
Jack Warnock	Cotton Australia	jackwarnock@bigpond.com
Jon Maree Baker	Namoi Water	eo@namoiwater.com.au
Russell Stewart	Narrabri Chamber of Commerce	fourstewarts@bigpond.com
Jocelyn Cameron	NSW Country Women's Association	dcandjccameron@bigpond.com
Tony Pickard	People for the Plains	deere@activ8.net.au
Lynn Trindall	Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council	admin@narrabrilalc.com.au
Stephen O'Donoghue	Department of Planning and Environment	stephen.o'donoghue@planning.nsw.gov.au
Annie Moody	Santos Ltd	annie.moody@santos.com

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.