

Narrabri Gas Project Community Consultative Committee

Meeting 38 – May 2019

Action Item 38.4_Response to PFTP Questions to Santos May 2019_General

Questions 1 and 2

1. - Q1i. Is Santos closing the doors of the Shop Front Main Street office in the later part of this year (around July 2019 is the common date stated) and moving this part of the operation out to the Operations Centre on Yarrie Lake Road?

Q1ii. If this is the case when does Santos intend to inform the Narrabri and wider Community of this?

Q1iii. If it is not the case will Santos reaffirm the commitment “to always have a fully staffed office in the main street of Narrabri”?

2. - Q2i. Has Santos had a reshuffle of personnel with retrenchments, retirements and the moving away of some personnel?

Q2ii. Mr D Banks, whose previous title was as the head of Santos Eastern, now has a title of Executive Vice President Onshore Upstream, does that mean that he is no longer directly involved with the NGP as he was before, or is this just a reshuffle of responsibilities with Mr D Banks still in charge of the entire east coast operation?

Q2iii. On that point it is widely believed that the NGP is being totally controlled out of Brisbane, can you confirm and explain any changes that have occurred in the past 10 months?

RESPONSE:

Santos confirms the responses provided to the member at the Narrabri Gas Project CCC meeting on 14 May 2019.

The Santos shopfront will continue to operate at 125 Maitland Street, Narrabri with the Community and Land Access team based there and visiting technical and corporate support staff regularly using the office facilities. Operational staff will continue to be based at the Narrabri Operations Centre on Yarrie Lake Road.

Mr David Banks holds the position of Executive Vice President Onshore Oil and Gas. Mr Banks is responsible for Santos’ onshore upstream business, including the Narrabri Gas Project.

Question 3:

3. - In August 2013 Santos was granted Approval to undertake the Dewhurst 22-25 Pilot Wells exploration program by the then Office of Coal seam Gas.

Amongst the Approval Conditions there was one under “13. Sediment and Erosion Control Plan”, that Santos had to prepare and implement.

Q3i. – In the public interest and in Santos’ stated commitment of being “transparent”, will Santos inform the NGPCCC of where a copy of this Plan can be publically viewed?

The above title seems to have morphed into “The Soil and Water Management Plan”.

Q3ii. –In the public interest and in Santos’ stated commitment of being “transparent”, will Santos inform the NGPCCC of where a copy of this Plan can be publically viewed?

RESPONSE:

The Soil and Surface Water Management Plan for the Narrabri Gas Project is available on the Santos website at <https://narrabrigasproject.com.au/about/environment/dewhurst-gas-exploration-pilot-expansion/>

Question 4:

The story circulating is that this Hub could be one of the sites for the Ammonia nitrate plant can you confirm or deny this and that Santos is playing a role in acquiring businesses' for the Hub?

Q.4i. What if any role, either officially or unofficially is Santos having in obtaining business for the Narrabri Inland Rail Hub which is to be located on flood free land West of Narrabri ?

Q.4ii. Has Santos ever been in discussions with representatives of Narrabri Shire Council with regard to any matter appertaining to the Inland Rail Hib?

Q.4iii. If the above is the case then when did these discussions take place and with whom?

RESPONSE:

Santos supports development of the Logistics and Industrial Hub being pursued by the Narrabri Shire Council. The hub has the potential to attract new businesses to the region and strengthen the local economy.

Narrabri gas could also support new industries in the region. Santos has entered into a non-binding memorandum of understanding and subsequent heads of agreement to supply Narrabri gas to Perdaman, a fertiliser producer looking to build a new plant in the region and create hundreds of construction and ongoing local jobs and small business opportunities. A final location for the proposed facility has not been selected.

While Santos has no formal or informal role in attracting businesses to the proposed hub, we would be pleased to talk to any business looking to source competitively priced gas in NSW.

Question 5:

Nil. (Question 5 was omitted on the document tabled by the representative from People for the Plains).

Question 6:

Q.6. - Why is it taking so long in some cases up to 9+ months for answers to questions put to Santos and the Government Representatives? (answer to "what state the Lucerne crop from Leewood went to") and ("question to the Department of premier and Cabinet re a GISERA Report that was being charged to obtain by a non GISERA body").

RESPONSE:

Santos endeavours to respond to questions it receives from CCC members in a timely manner and has responded to more than 280 detailed questions since the CCC first met in December 2014, with 139 of those questions tabled at the past four meetings.

Compiling responses to these questions sometimes takes longer than we would like and we will continue to look for ways to improve our response times.

Question 7:

Q.7. - Will Santos now respond to the local and wider community concerns and explain the reasons why Santos did not answer all the questions that were raised by NSW Departments over answers Santos gave in Santos' Response to Submissions?

RESPONSE:

Santos responded to all information requests received from NSW government agencies as part of the EIS assessment process. Those responses are available on the NSW major projects website at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/10716

Santos remains committed to a rigorous, open, transparent and independent planning process to provide the community with confidence that, if approved, the Narrabri Gas Project will be developed safely and sustainably, without harm to water resources, agricultural land or the environment.

Question 8:

How will the assessment process for the Narrabri Gas Project take into consideration the cumulative impacts across the region and how will the mitigation and management strategies written into the project approval, manage for these cumulative impacts? Who has strategic oversight of these landscape scale impacts for the future?

RESPONSE:

Cumulative impacts of the Narrabri Gas Project have been addressed in Chapter 29 of the Environmental Impact Statement and Chapter 6.29 of the Response to Submissions. This information will form part of the assessment by the Independent Planning Commission.

This material can be accessed on the NSW Major Projects website at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/10716

Question 9:

DPI Water Monitoring Bore REF of 2018 and Santos Supplementary Response to Submissions.

There are differences in where the location of the proposed stated location of DPI Monitoring Bores shown as #14 Pilliga South Exploration area and #4 Scratch Road, and what is shown to be the location in the Santos figure 2-2. (no sign of that DPI Bore). In the Santos figure Santos has placed a Monitoring bore in the Dewhurst North Pilot and claims that inside a gas field is the best place to monitor drawdown of the groundwater in a coal seam.

RESPONSE:

Santos is committed to implementing a groundwater monitoring program capable of early detection of impacts of the project on groundwater resources and dependent users. The Water Monitoring Plan (EIS Appendix G3) is founded on the principle of early detection monitoring and identifies monitoring thresholds and trigger levels and associated management actions for mitigation of potential impacts.

The overall water monitoring network will be a combination of Santos' existing monitoring bores (including Dewhurst 8a) and planned monitoring bores, as well as Government monitoring bores. The locations of existing and proposed water monitoring bores will be confirmed when the Water Monitoring Plan is finalised.

~~~

ENDS