

MEETING MINUTES

Narrabri Gas Project (NGP)

Water Technical advisory Group (WTAG)

Meeting # 2

DATE / TIME

1/09/21

LOCATION

Skype

FACILITATOR

Garry West

MINUTE TAKER

Trish Dandridge

ATTENDEES

- ◆ Garry West (Independent Chair)
- ◆ Fabienne d’Hautefeuille (DPIE Water)
- ◆ Cate Barrett (DPIE Water)
- ◆ Randall Cox (Independent Expert)
- ◆ Mike Williams (Independent Expert)
- ◆ Conrad Bolton (Local landholder representative)
- ◆ Jack Warnock (Local groundwater user)
- ◆ Edward Trindall (Narrabri LALC)
- ◆ Annie Moody (Santos)
- ◆ David Gornall (Santos)

Guest

- ◆ Todd Dunn (Santos)

Apologies

- ◆ Cr Cathy Redding (Council Representative)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1. Welcome	Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.
Recording of minutes	The Chair asked members if there was any objection to the recording of the minutes for secretariat purposes with the minute’s audio being deleted once the minutes were final and approved. There was no objection.
Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair read the acknowledgement of Country.
Confirmation to minutes / actions	Minutes of last meeting accepted. Actions update listed in actions table (no actions outstanding)
Correspondence	All non-Government members of WTAG received an email from a member of the public which included a cover letter and a report. The Chair tabled the letter and report and will circulate to other members of this group for comments. Santos to review the submission as part of their preparation of draft Water Management Plans for Phase 1 and discuss with the WTAG.

<p>2. Presentations</p>	<p>Presentation 2: Santos delivered a presentation. Agenda items included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santos update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NGP Development Schedule ○ Update status of management plans (including consultation process) • Introduction to plans available for consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water Management Plan ○ Erosion and Sediment Control Plan ○ Produced Water Management Plan ○ Irrigation Management Plan ○ Pollution Incident Response Plan
<p>3. Key topics discussed and questions raised</p>	<p>Feedback timeline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The feedback schedule and workflow for WTAG is in the presentation • Santos will provide a copy of the plans at least a week ahead of the meeting for discussion in these meetings. • Members will have approximately four weeks to review and provide feedback to Santos • Santos will then consolidate the feedback and prepare responses • Another meeting will be held two weeks following receipt of the feedback forms, for the WTAG to discuss the response to the feedback • If there is feedback from this or other groups, DPIE or EPA, and if the amendment is significant, then feedback can then come back through this group for consultation. • If there are still concerns from the responses to the feedback, it can be raised through this group following the above process. • A feedback form is provided to assist in consolidation of the feedback. WTAG members are asked to identify the specific section of the plan and the type of issue e.g. legislation or process, in an objective and concise manner to alleviate any misinterpretation. <p>Comment: Feedback Form is not interactive with iPad.</p> <p>A. Take it as an action to ensure electronic feedback form is interactive with iPad and Android tablets.</p> <p>A. Ensure feedback form is sent out to all members.</p> <p>Note: The plans which have been circulated with the WTAG to date present management strategies that have all previously been approved by regulators as part of the existing approved exploration activities.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (WMP) - performance measures, details how the plans sit together under the WMP.</p> <p>Comment: Comments made regarding the importance of Bohena Creek and Aboriginal sites found on Bohena Creek and the impact of a 100-year flood and Santos flowing water back into Bohena Creek.</p> <p>Response: Santos does not propose to release any treated water to Bohena Creek as part of Phase 1. Therefore the management plans with the WTAG are not required to contemplate that activity. Aspects of the plans which relate to Bohena Creek relate to minimizing erosion risk during floods and big rainfall events (e.g. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan) and the avoidance and management of pollution incidents (e.g. the Pollution Incident Response Management Plan).</p> <p>Q. Clarification sought on what is meant by pollution incident.</p> <p>A. As an example – a pollution incident could happen following a road traffic accident involving a fuel truck driving down the highway. This may not be related to Santos activities, however the way Santos would respond is detailed in the Pollution Incident</p>

Response Management Plan. The same process we would follow if there were any incident involving unintended movement of chemical, coal seam gas water or loss of fluid containment and the plan explains what controls would be in place and actions Santos would take to manage the incident.

Q. Explain how the plans are meant to be read and if possible can references be made in sub plans to the main plan.

A. Request that members articulate where they need reference points in the documents in their feedback form for Santos to review.

Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

Discussion regarding access tracks and who maintains them.

Q. Who maintains the access tracks?

A. Santos maintains the identified access tracks in consultation with Forestry Corporation of NSW to ensure the tracks / roads meet the required standards.

Produced Water Management Plan

There is a range of options for beneficial use with the treated water including going to irrigation, dust suppression, water used in construction, drilling and land rehabilitation and fire-fighting.

The Salt Water Management plan is included in the Produced Water Management Plan. brine concentrator is used to optimise storage within the brine storage ponds though there is naturally occurring evaporation.

Salt is managed as brine storage in the ponds during Phase 1. Santos will progress the assessment of beneficial use of salt options and potentially turn it into a salt byproduct. This will not be included in the plans at this stage as studies will be progressed prior to Phase 2.

Q. Is the 19,000t of Salt all out of one well?

A. The 19,000t of salt is from the appraisal wells and includes all of the salt from previous exploration and appraisal operations.

Comment: There are concerns around what is going to happen to the salt and for it not to be bunkered up on the land. There needs to be a plan on what to do with the salt before stage two or three.

Response: Santos has developed the Produced Salt Beneficial Reuse and Disposal Study, which must be approved prior to Phase 1. That plan presents beneficial use trials which will commence once the plan is approved. Field trials will be run over 18 months to work out the best beneficial use of the salt option prior to Phase 2.

Salt is approximately 85% bicarbonate by volume, which can be beneficially reused and there is about 12 – 15% which cannot be beneficially reused that will have to be disposed of in compliance with regulations (which has a general waste classification). The Salt Management Plan is to address any remaining by-product with cannot be beneficially re-used.

In absence of any further study, salt would be to dispose of at licensed 'general waste' facilities, the same kinds of facilities that accept the many millions of tonnes of municipal waste from our towns and cities each year.

Produce Water Management Plan – Monitoring

Q. Of the 300 samples of 50 wells, is this spread over a large area? (section 4.3)

A. Water samples are from all the existing operating wells in PEL238.

Pollution Incident Response Plan

Q. In relation to the Dam Safety and Emergency Management Plan for Leewood – are we making comment at this stage?

A. Yes, it is an appendix to the Pollution Incident Response Management Plan. This plan has been in place for a number of years and has previously been approved by the Dam Safety Committee.

Q. In the Pollution Incident Response Plan, on page 26, and reference to the well pads under construction, what are the environmental controls?

A. The Erosion Sediment Control Plan refers to the tools and systems in place and making sure Santos are keeping the soil on the pads.

Q What does the environmental control around the well pads look like?

A. This will vary depending on the activity. In relation to drilling activity, any fuel storage on site would be within its own sealed bund or double-skinned tank. Every site has its own Erosion and Sediment Control Plan which specifies, based on topography, where sediment fencing and other controls are required. This plan is also reviewed and audited by the regulator.

Q. Can we include a statement which clarifies this such as, “Each site has its own Environment Control Plan in line with EPA and/or Regulator requirements?”

A. Santos will take this on notice.

Dam Safety Emergency Plan

Q. The plan indicates 950 hectares used, does the impact area account for the connecting pipe footprint as well.

A. This statement is consistent with all plans based on the EIS and conditions of consent. It sets the upper limit for disturbance similar to the way we can drill up to 850 wells, but Santos will not be required to drill that many. This footprint includes all disturbance such as ponds, well pads, gathering system (including connecting pipe footprint), access tracks and compression facilities.

Q. Is the emergency notification action flowchart the same for all emergency notifications or is there a leapfrog provision if someone next in the chart hierarchy is not contactable.

A. Yes, ‘leapfrogging’ would occur. Santos conducts four emergency response exercises per year and if the next person in line is not available at the first contact, it is escalated to the next person. If there is a genuine emergency, emergency services are called and Santos will establish incident and emergency management teams that take into account the need for escalation.

Q. Page 66 has downstream landholder names redacted.

A. Personal identifiers relating to individuals will be redacted from public documents.

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Santos to review submission received from a member of the public on 20 August 2021 and discuss with the WTAG.	Santos	TBA
2	WTAG Schedule – next meeting / batch of plans document to be sent to WTAG members	Santos	6 October 2021
3	Feedback of current plans sent by Santos	WTAG members	29 September 2021
4	Next batch of plans sent to WTAG members	Santos/Chair	6 October 2021

5	How to use Teams instructions sent to WTAG members	Chair	6 October 2021
6.	Consider Feedback Form template to be interactive with iPad, Android tablets	Santos	10 September 2021
7.	Send electronic version of Feedback Form to all WTAG members	Santos	10 September 2021

Next Meeting

13 October 2021- via Teams video link