

MEETING MINUTES

Narrabri Gas Project (NGP)

Biodiversity Advisory Group (BAG)

Meeting # 6

DATE / TIME

15 February 2023
9:00am

LOCATION

Santos meeting room
Maitland Street, Narrabri

FACILITATOR

Garry West

MINUTE TAKER

Lyn Firth

ATTENDEES

- ◆ Garry West (Independent Chair)
- ◆ Patrick Tap (Independent Expert)
- ◆ Isaac Mamott (Independent Expert)

- ◆ Trudy Staines (Community Member)
- ◆ Janelle Twynum (Santos)(MS Teams)
- ◆ Liz Mazzer (BCD Alternate Representative)(MS Teams)
- ◆ Todd Dunn (Santos)

APOLOGIES

- ◆ Kathryn Hamilton (Community Member)
- ◆ Malcolm Talbot (Community Member)
- ◆ Ken Flower (Community Member)
- ◆ Sam Wynn (BCD Representative)
- ◆ Steve Philips (Independent Expert)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS		
1. Welcome	The Chair welcomed the Advisory group and acknowledged Gomeroi country on which the meeting was held as well as Elders past, present, and future and all Aboriginal person present.		
Declaration of interest	The Chair asked if there were any new declarations of interest. Nil.		
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.		
Minutes of previous minutes	Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted with no changes. They have been uploaded to the website		
Actions outstanding	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Circulate final version of FDP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Complete</td> </tr> </table>	Circulate final version of FDP	Complete
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<p>Correspondence</p>	<p>Nil</p> <p>Liz Dunlop is now working on Hunter Gas Pipeline and Narrabri Lateral Pipeline projects. Janelle Twyman now taken on Biodiversity responsibility.</p>
<p>2. Presentation Todd Dunn</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Santos Corporate Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record annual production and revenue for 2022 – representation of the merger with OilSearch and high world commodity prices. • Legal challenges to the Barossa Project and drilling operations have resulted in suspension of operations whilst this is dealt with. • Pikka project (in Alaska) was recently sanctioned and is proceeding. • Change in corporate strategy in recent years to decarbonize the supply chain – reflected in projects at Moomba and Cooper Basin • The Bayu-Undan CCS will support the Barossa Project • There are a number of other projects underway particularly in the hydrogen sphere – fact sheets and other details will be circulated to members through the chair. <p>Q. Isaac - In the consent conditions, was there any commitment to carbon capture storage in the Narrabri Gas Project? A. Todd - No, carbon capture was not part of the original submissions. There has been much more thought given to carbon capture recently, and now it is part of the Santos business, and we are reassessing what the carbon offset requirements are for this project. In terms of the consent itself, it allows for the emissions to be vented. The EIS sets the handrails for the impacts of the project – if we did nothing, it would be significantly less than what is built into the consent, but we need to align the project with our current corporate strategy around net zero targets.</p> <p>Q. Isaac – Do the trials look encouraging? A. Todd - CCS is proven technology. One of the challenges is finding target reservoirs within this region. We are currently working with the NSW government in this area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Narrabri Gas Project Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of bringing the advisory group together was to get an update on the project, and to conduct a site tour – this is happening tomorrow. • All the secondary approvals and management plans have been approved and are available on the website. They will be sent out through the chair to all members. • Before any of pilot wells are on online, the monitoring bore network must be on online. A baseline of water quality can be established and as wells come online, Santos can demonstrate impact of the drilling on the water levels. <p>Q. Isaac - Is there only minor localized clearing needed for the drilling? A. Todd - It is an existing lease pad. We clear the site of a set size and rehab (consistent with old approvals) and do the rehab when the activity is completed. There will be a small access track maintained so someone can take samples, but the rest is rehabbed.</p> <p>Q. Isaac – Did the Bio-Diversity Management plan have a very detailed clearing protocols that the contractors can easily follow on the field? A. Todd – Yes – the document goes to the contractor which they are required to follow.</p> <p>Q. Trudy – What sort of baseline data do you have so far? A. Todd – There are several plans in the water space, and these go through the WTAG. There have been approximately 40 data sites being tracked for the last few years, and of those data points, maybe about half of them are Santos points, and the remainder are either government or publicly available data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legally, Santos is now operating under the Narrabri Gas Project under Consent SSD 6456 and that introduces several reporting triggers. All field activity falls under the consent with means it falls under the FDP which came to the advisory group for consultation. The management plans are continually being updated and refreshed.

- The teams now start to work through the FDP for Phase 2.
- However, Santos will not be making a final investment decision on the Narrabri Gas Project until the pipeline approvals have been granted.
- For Petroleum Production Leases to be granted, Santos also requires an outcome from the National Native Title Tribunal. The latest decision has been appealed, and there is no information as to when that will be finalized.
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Q. Isaac – With the wet years we have had, has the water table risen? Will that be of concern?

A. Todd – The water monitoring network throughout the Namoi Catchment is extensive and shows that there are always changes in levels, but it is not of concern, and is just what we deal with.

The data from all monitoring and the resulting issues are analyzed by the WTAG.

Q. Isaac – Are the 6 pilot in existing cleared areas?

A. Todd – No, the 6 pilot wells are all new – 5 of the 6 are on private property, and 1 of them is on forestry land.

Q. Isaac – Is the koala research proposal still on the cards for this project?

A. Todd – Yes, and the information will come back through this group.

Pat spoke to the work that the DPE and others were doing in this area. He suggested that the NSW Koala Strategy website could be accessed for more information about what was happening in the Pilliga, and statewide.

○ NGP Indicative Timeline and Scope

- The Field Management Plans took longer than anticipated to be approved.
- Now it is about getting the data, (about 18 months' work) and working through to finalize the Phase 2 Management Plans.
- Working towards a sanction date in 2024, but there is still significant work and data monitoring required to meet that.
- The availability of rigs is also a factor.

○ Hunter Gas Pipeline Update

- Santos is working hard to get this project underway which has resulted in staffing changes.
- The pipeline starts at Baan Baa and finishes in Newcastle. The corridor is approved – work is now based on the actual alignment.
- Ecology and cultural heritage are the two main factors that affect the alignment. Many surveys are being conducted in these areas, as well as extensive meetings with landowners.
- Authority to Survey has recently received media attention. Although Santos have been granted this permission, it is a last resort measure.
- Todd spoke to the depth of cover and how you manage what happens on top of the pipeline. The Australian pipeline standards are very comprehensive and determine these matters.
- Part of the approval incorporated a requirement to engage with Councils along the alignment to offer offtake points and try and promote future industrial opportunities along the line.
- Narrabri Council have nominated the SAP treaty as their preferred location for their offtake point.

Q. Pat – Will the pipeline have monitoring points along it?

A. Todd -Yes – it is part of the design.

○ Narrabri Lateral Pipeline Update

- This runs from the Narrabri Gasfield to connect with the Hunter Gas Pipeline.
- The EIS will address the potential for hydrogen to go through the line and possibly CO2 to be twinned at a future time.

Q. Pat – Is the hydrogen in a separate pipe in the line?

A. Todd -No – all in the one pipe. It co-mingles.

	<p>Santos have submitted a scoping report to the Dept of Planning, and it has been declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure.</p> <p>Q. Pat – How much of the route through the State Forest is on existing roads? A. Todd -The first 16km follows a cleared track where the existing pipeline is, once you get to Bibblewindi you hop onto Exxon Road, and after that, we are trying to follow existing roads. We have had a briefing session with local landowners. Santos already has several pipelines in existence as part of the appraisal, and we are trying to utilize those existing corridors.</p>
<p>General Business</p>	<p>Patrick Tap is retiring in the next fortnight and will resign from this committee. He was thanked for his contribution.</p> <p>There may not be a need for this group meet at the next round of meetings in May.</p> <p>There is a dinner at the RSL tonight at 6:00pm. There is a field tour tomorrow – meeting at the tows office at 7:40am.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 11:03am</p>

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future hydrogen projects to be undertaken by Santos 	Todd Dunn	As available

Next Meeting (TBC)