

## Annual Community Consultation Report Petroleum Exploration Licence No. 238

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### For reporting period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Licence Renewal Date: 12 April 2022

Licence Expiry Date: 17 December 2027

Licence Holders: Santos NSW Pty Ltd

Project Operator: Santos NSW Pty Ltd (Conventional Operator) and Santos NSW (Eastern) Pty Ltd (CSG Operator)

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# 1. Executive Summary

Santos NSW Pty Ltd and have appointed Santos NSW Pty Ltd (Conventional) and Santos NSW (Eastern) Pty Ltd (Unconventional) as the Operator for Petroleum Exploration Licence No. 238 (PEL 238). PEL 238 is located in northern NSW and is located around the township of Narrabri. PEL 238 was renewed for a term of five years eight months and five days on 12 April 2022. The tenement covers a contiguous area of approximately 5,700 square kilometres. Santos facilitates community consultation activities for the Narrabri Gas Project (the Project) on a 'whole-of-project' basis, which may include PEL 238, Petroleum Assessment Lease 2 and Petroleum Production Lease 3. Whilst activity-related matters described in this report include mentions of works within PAL 2 and PPL 3, specific community consultation actions for these leases are not included.

A comprehensive Community Consultation Plan for PEL 238 has been updated annually since 2013; stakeholders have been identified; and risk-based assessments are undertaken regarding the level of impact or benefit that activities may have on stakeholders and the community. It is Santos' intention to maintain a mature relationship with stakeholders in this licence area, and for the past eight years, Santos has conducted engagement and consultation activities that have provided stakeholders and community members with numerous opportunities to learn about, contribute to, and express concerns about Santos' activities.

Following a detailed review, the NSW Independent Planning Commission (IPC) approved the Project on 30 September 2020, concluding that the Project is in the public interest and that any impacts can be effectively mitigated through strict conditions. Following a review of the New South Wales assessment, the Federal Minister for the Environment approved the project on 24 November 2020 under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

In November 2020, the NSW Government released the Strategic Opportunities for Gas in Regional NSW<sup>[1]</sup> statement. This statement outlines its support for the domestic gas industry as a source of new jobs and opportunities. Subsequently, the NSW Government released its Future of Gas Statement<sup>[2]</sup>, which outlines plans to deliver secure, reliable, and affordable gas supply opportunities for NSW. In the statement, it is concluded that gas-based industries have a "bright future in regional NSW" and support is given to the development of the Narrabri Gas Project.

The feedback received from stakeholders, landholders, and the local community regarding these commitments and the approval of the Project has been very positive. After a lengthy environmental assessment process, these announcements have provided the Narrabri community with confidence that the State and Federal Governments are committed to supporting the project. Community members are optimistic that they will be able to begin to reap the benefits from enhanced economic development and job creation through the Project, and that gas from the Narrabri area will provide a secure energy source for broader economic benefits and opportunities for the State.

Following the Project approval, community engagement activities have been primarily geared towards implementing the conditions of consent for the Project, which have involved significant community involvement in the establishment of the Narrabri Gas Project Community Consultative Committee (CCC), four advisory groups, and preparing, updating, and consulting on the Project Management Plans. As part of the renewal process for Petroleum Exploration Licences in PEL 238 and other tenements held by Santos in NSW, Santos has been in contact with a variety of state and local government entities, stakeholders, landholders, and the community.

Santos welcomed the renewal of PEL 238 and other tenements held by Santos in NSW on April 12, 2022. With this announcement, Santos has been granted renewal rights for the PEL 238 and other tenements it holds in NSW until 17 December 2027. This will enable Santos to continue exploration and appraisal activities.

Key outcomes of Santos' ongoing community consultation and engagement have been:

- Continue to raise awareness of the Project and outcomes and conditions associated with the Project approval;
- Provided access to technical specialists to assist in understanding and interpreting information;
- Strengthened relationships with stakeholders, decision-makers, supporters and opponents of the Project;
- Maintained established processes to assist in managing and minimising the risk of conflict and resolved issues as they arose;

- Provided information and updates to landholders and the community relating to government announcements and the PEL renewal process; and
- Facilitated positive Aboriginal cultural heritage outcomes by consulting with relevant parties and encouraging them to participate in decision making regarding the management of their cultural heritage.

During the first half of the period, there have been intermittent social gathering and stay at home restrictions in the licence area associated with COVID-19 Public Health Orders. These restrictions have also limited our opportunity to host and participate in activities such as face to face meetings and community site tours. At the cessation of these restrictions face to face meetings were resumed and Site Tours were offered on an on-request basis due to NSW Public Health Orders, internal Santos COVID-19 protocols, and inclement weather conditions.

Santos continues to distribute Monthly Activity Updates to subscribers and monthly advertisements in the Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News of activities being undertaken. The Narrabri Shopfront has been open when Public Health Order restrictions allow, and staff continue to be available to answer questions from stakeholders and members of the community by telephone and email throughout the period.

Santos will continue to monitor and promptly address matters of topical interest or concern for stakeholders and the community relating to the PEL 238 exploration and appraisal program and the Project development. Distribution of information continues through established communication channels, focusing on the Narrabri Local Government Area with targeted consultation and engagement with stakeholders in other areas as required.

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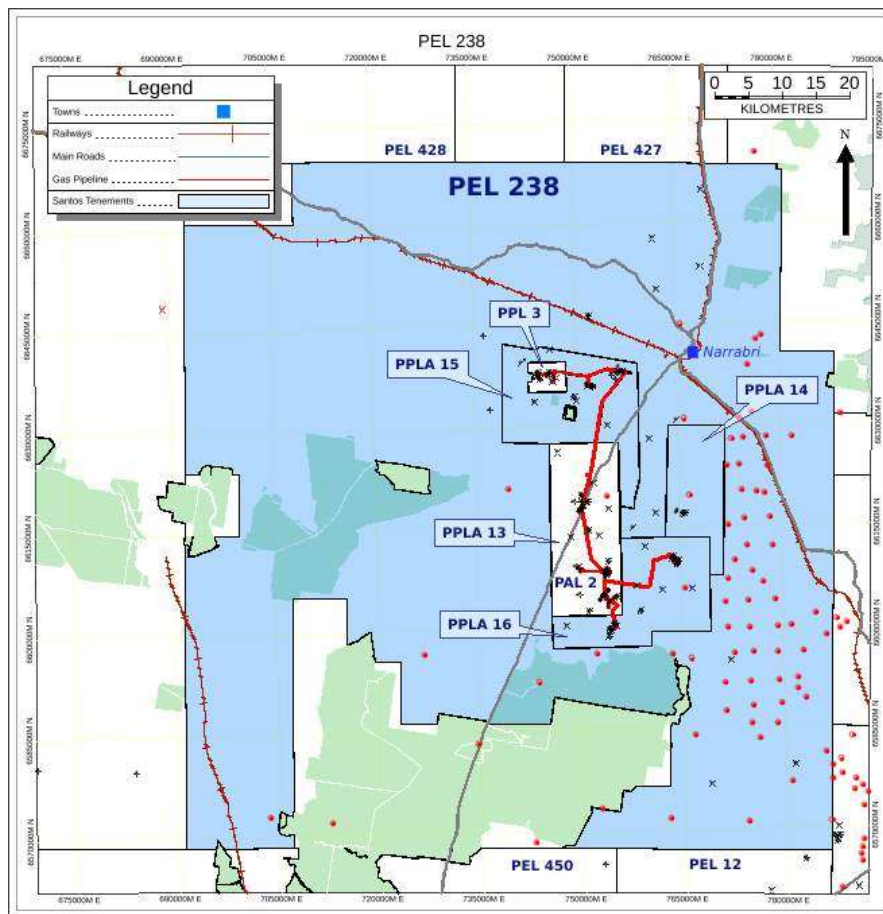
<sup>[1]</sup> NSW Government. (November 2020). Strategic Opportunities for Gas in Regional NSW. [https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-11/Strategic%20Opportunities%20for%20Gas%20in%20Regional%20NSW%20statement%20\\_0.pdf](https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-11/Strategic%20Opportunities%20for%20Gas%20in%20Regional%20NSW%20statement%20_0.pdf)

<sup>[2]</sup> NSW Government, Department of Regional NSW. (July 2021). Future of Gas Statement. <https://www.nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/future-of-gas-statement>

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## 2. Consultation Activities

Figure 1: PEL 238 Location Map



### 2.1 Community Overview

PEL 238 is located in northern NSW and is situated around the township of Narrabri. The tenement covers a contiguous area of approximately 5,700 square kilometres. The smaller towns of Wee Waa, Baradine, Edgeroi, Baan Baa and Gwabegar are located within the PEL, and other nearby towns (but outside the PEL) include Boggabri, Coonabarabran, and Gunnedah.

In addition to being within Parkes Federal Government electoral boundaries, PEL 238 is also within the boundaries of the State Government electoral boundaries of Barwon and Tamworth, as well as the local government areas (LGAs) of Narrabri, Warrumbungle, and Gunnedah Shire.

The Narrabri Gas Project is located within PEL 238 and covers approximately 950 square kilometres within the Narrabri Local Government Area. Sixty-six percent of the Project area consists of State forests that are reserved for recreation, conservation, commercial timber production, mining, petroleum production, and extractive industries. It is anticipated that the disturbance footprint will cover approximately 1,000 hectares, or approximately one percent of the total project area.

Narrabri LGA covers an area of 13,065 square kilometres and is centred on the town of Narrabri. According to the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data for 2020, the population of the Narrabri Local Government Area (LGA) is approximately 13,049 people, with approximately 7,340 residing in the Narrabri suburbs.

According to the 2018 ABS data, agriculture, forestry, and fishing is the largest employment category in the Narrabri LGA, employing 1,407 individuals. There were approximately 844 people employed in the mining (6 percent) and construction (6 percent) industries. Around 12% of the coal reserves in NSW are estimated to be located in the Narrabri LGA, and several companies operate underground and open-cut coal mines within the Shire. Furthermore, three solar farm proposals are currently in the planning or development stages within the Shire.

In November 2020, NSW Government released a statement Strategic Opportunities for Gas in Regional NSW which links to their commitment to investigate a potential Narrabri Special Activation Precinct<sup>11</sup> (SAP) for energy. As a result of the SAP, planning processes would be streamlined, new jobs could be created, and regional economic development would be stimulated as a result of coal, gas, and solar energy projects within the Narrabri Shire. As part of the SAP master planning process for Narrabri, commercial quantities of domestic gas will be made available to energy-intensive industries and manufacturers, such as plastics, fertilisers, and construction materials manufacturers.

In an effort to complement the SAP and take advantage of the inland rail infrastructure development taking place in the Shire as part of the national freight network upgrade connecting Melbourne to Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, the Narrabri Shire Council has released a prospectus for the development of the Northern NSW Inland Port. The proposed inland port will be equipped with a freight and logistics terminal and an industrial park that will be connected to the inland rail system. Natural gas connectivity from the Narrabri Gas Project to the facility has been strongly supported and expressed by the Council.

## 2.2 Focus of Community Consultation Activities

The purpose of this report is to meet the requirements of Condition 8 of the Petroleum Exploration Licence. As part of the Project, Santos manages key community consultation activities on a 'whole-of-Project' basis. These activities may be related to PEL 238, PAL 2, or PPL 3. Although this report mentions activities within PAL 2 and PPL 3, specific community consultation actions for these leases are not described.

Consultation with stakeholders and the community is a key component of the PEL 238 work program and is documented in a Community Consultation Plan. The consultation program aims to engage with community members and stakeholders regarding the proposed activity program; identify potential issues; minimise the risk of conflict; and provide additional information regarding proposed activities so that community awareness and understanding can be increased, and concerns can be resolved early in the planning process.

Santos consults with stakeholders on the activities being undertaken within the PEL and provides periodic updates on these activities, including:

- Petroleum exploration and appraisal activities - seismic, drilling of exploration core holes and pilot wells, workovers, and decommissioning activities
- Environment studies and activities – ecological and cultural heritage surveys, ground and surface water studies and monitoring, noise and air studies and monitoring
- Community activities – Narrabri Gas Project CCC meetings, site visits, information forums, sponsorships, and other community participation
- Specific projects – construction activities, operational enhancements, or impediments
- Future planned work and tenure development
- Other initiatives and industry news

In order to support the delivery of this program, a Stakeholder and Community Engagement Plan was developed to support the extensive community consultation activities that were conducted as part of the Project EIS assessment process and was revised periodically as progress on project deliverables was made. This Plan identified key stakeholders: the potential issues, risks, and opportunities to be addressed during the Project assessment and approval process; and identified techniques for disseminating and obtaining accurate, timely, and credible information regarding the Project among stakeholders and the local community. The Plan was complementary to the broader PEL 238 Community Consultation Plan and focused on the engagement of stakeholders and the community in relation to the project.



A significant component of our consultation and engagement activities during the reporting period have been to provide information to the community regarding the assessment of the EIS and the Project approval in September 2020 by the IPC and the subsequent Federal EPBC approval of the Project in November 2020. As a result of the approval of the Project, Santos informed the community of its plans to undertake a number of workover activities on existing wells in PEL 238. Santos announced that planning would commence for a 12 to 18 month appraisal drilling program, including expansion of our water monitoring network and the preparation of Management Plans required as a condition of consent.

In July 2021, the NSW Government released the Future of Gas Statement, detailing their plans for the gas industry in NSW and ruling out gas production under most PELs, except those supporting the Narrabri Gas Project. This Statement resulted in a 77 per cent reduction of the total area currently covered by PELs across NSW, except for licences supporting the Narrabri Gas Project. This Statement provides additional clarity to proponents, industry bodies, regional communities, and landowners regarding the areas that will be subject to the renewal of PELs. The NSW Government amended the Mining State Environmental Planning Policy on 17 September 2021 to reflect these changes. In order to communicate this information and answer questions to key stakeholders in relevant regional communities, Santos implemented several initiatives, including media releases, monthly activity updates, emails, and telephone calls. During the reporting period, NSW Government renewed PEL 238, and the maps of renewed PELs are now available on the NSW Common Ground website.

In April 2022, the NSW Government renewed PEL 238 and other NSW tenements for a period of five years, 8 months and 5 days. This generated many inquiries from stakeholders, landowners, and local communities. The focus has been to provide timely and accurate responses to questions and refer interested parties to relevant government websites for further information on announcements and initiatives. Throughout the process, we have focused on providing factual information about the timing and delivery of economic and business development opportunities, as well as employment and project development. Many questions related to which areas were included in the renewed PEL areas and what areas were removed. These questions also related to current and future exploration activities in PEL 238 and the supply of domestic gas in the future.

As a result of an appeal filed by the Mullaley Gas and Pipeline Accord and represented by the Environmental Defenders Office, a small number of community inquiries have been received regarding the Judicial Review proceedings that were heard in the NSW Land and Environment Court from 30 August 2021. The group appealed the IPC's approval of the Narrabri Gas Project and the IPC's consideration of the potential environmental impacts of the transmission pipeline; and engagement associated with Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the potential impact on climate change and the environment. As a result of the proceedings, an outcome was handed down on 18 October 2021, affirming the approval of the project by the IPC. Information relevant to the inquiries can be found in the Narrabri Gas Project SSD 6456 Development Consent and Statement of Reasons for Decision located on the IPC website.

As part of the development and implementation of the 134 conditions for consent, Santos has established and operated a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) in accordance with the Guidelines for Community Consultative Committees for State Significant Projects of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). An Independent Chair was appointed by the DPIE in November 2020 who led the process for a public advertisement inviting individuals and key stakeholder groups to nominate a representative to the CCC. Among the numerous applications received, ten members were appointed, including representatives from Narrabri Shire Council, Country Women's Association NSW, North West Local Land Services, Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council, NSW Farmers, Narrabri Chamber of Commerce, People for the Plains, and two community representatives. The CCC meetings are also attended by at least two Santos employees. The first meeting of the new CCC was held on 17 February 2021, and there have been four meetings (October, February, May, September) during this reporting period.

As a condition of the approval of the project, the DPIE appointed an independent chair for four Advisory Groups: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, Biodiversity, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and a Water Technical Advisory Group. Santos worked with the DPIE and the Chair to advertise for expressions of interest from community groups and interested individuals for nominations to the committee. In addition, nominations were referred to DPIE for approval for experts to represent the scientific community in the various groups, with three appointed to the Biodiversity Advisory Group, two to the Greenhouse Gas Advisory Group, and two to the Water Technical Advisory Group. In the course of the reporting period, all groups have met at least once, and meeting minutes and presentations are available on the Project website. As part of the Project consent, Santos relies upon advisory groups to assist with the preparation and updating of the relevant Management Plans.

Additionally, Santos has been preparing, consulting, and submitting Management Plans required as a condition of consent, including liaison with key stakeholders and Advisory Groups relevant to the subject matter. The following management plans have commenced consultation, feedback, and lodgement with NSW Planning and Environment:

- Field Development Protocol
- Noise Management Plan
- Water Management Plan
- Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
- Site Water Balance
- Surface Water Management Plan
- Produced Water Management Plan
- Irrigation Management Plan
- Dust Suppression Protocol
- Managed Release Protocol
- Salt Management Plan
- Pollution Incident Response Management Plan
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan
- Environmental Management Strategy
- Biodiversity Management Plan
- Biodiversity Offset Strategy
- Koala Research Proposal
- Produced Salt Beneficial Reuse and Disposal Study
- Waste Management Plan
- Fire Management Plan
- Rehabilitation Management Plan
- Groundwater Management Plan
- Historic Heritage Management Plan
- Field Development Plan
- Property Management Plans
- Public Safety Management Plan

During the reporting period, the following management plans received NSW Department of Planning and Environment approval:

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan
- Waste Management Plan
- Field Development Protocol
- Historic Heritage Management Plan

During this process, various stakeholders were consulted, including members of the CCC and Advisory Groups, staff members from various state and local government entities, landowners, and local residents. As a result of consultation activities, suggestions for inclusions and amendments have been incorporated into the Plans where appropriate.

During the reporting period, on-ground project activity in PEL 238 has included routine activities associated with operating the existing PEL 238 pilot appraisal wells and planning for future activities, including;

- annual ecological monitoring activities and groundwater monitoring activities for Environmental Protection Licence compliance throughout the period;
- seasonal ecological surveys were undertaken to assist in planning future work activities; and
- the operation of the Wilga Park Power Station.



The Narrabri Gas Project publishes Monthly Activity Updates that are emailed to subscribers, published in the Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News newspapers, and posted on its website. In order to facilitate communication with stakeholders and community members, a telephone number and a generic e-mail address are included.

The Narrabri Shire Council endorsed the draft Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) for the Narrabri Gas Project in May 2021. This is the largest VPA ever negotiated by Narrabri Shire Council, totalling \$14.5 million. Over the term of the VPA, council will allocate the funds to complete various infrastructure and community improvement projects. During the reporting period, Santos continued to engage with Narrabri Shire Council regarding the VPA.

In addition, Santos has an ongoing Community Investment Program which provides grants and sponsorships, staff volunteer activities, and equipment loans to local community groups, sporting organisations, schools, and not-for-profit organisations. During the reporting period, these community initiatives contributed more than \$180,000, benefiting more than 30 local organisations.

Highlights of the Santos Community Investment Program during the reporting period include:

- The Pink Up Namoi initiative raised \$106,000 for the McGrath Foundation, a record for any Australian community. The funds raised enabled the Narrabri area to receive the services of a Breast Cancer Nurse.
- The Country University Centre North West is a dedicated learning and study space in Narrabri that provides high speed internet connectivity, modern technology, and general academic support to students studying higher education at Australian universities and non-university higher education providers. In the reporting period, approximately 160 students were supported, with 47% being the first in their family to pursue higher education.
- The CREATE Festival is a fourteen-day event that showcases the work of local and regional artists in a variety of media. Theatre, film, music and art are all featured at CREATE.
- Narrabri Performing Arts Eisteddfod is an eleven day performing arts event that provides performers from all ages with the opportunity to be on stage with a live audience and to receive excellent feedback from visiting adjudicators who are accomplished in their field, whether music, dance or speech and drama.
- The North West Science and Engineering Challenge is a major STEM event held annually for schools in the North West region. The program is attended by more than 300 students from 18 to 24 schools throughout the region.
- Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service provides world-class aeromedical and search and rescue services 24/7, free of charge, to those in need throughout the 1.5 million residents of Northern NSW that it serves. In challenging environments such as roads, farms, sporting fields, the bush, the sea, and workplaces, WRHS responds rapidly to more than 1,500 emergency missions each year.

## 2.3 Consultation Tools

An extensive range of consultation tools and activities have been used to conduct genuine and effective consultation with a very diverse community. The PEL 238 exploration and appraisal program and the Project proposal have provided multiple opportunities for both targeted stakeholder groups and the wider community to participate and provide feedback.

**Table 1: Consultation Tools**

Consultation Tools	Description of Activity
Narrabri Gas Project CCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee has an independent Chair and includes representatives from key industry and community organisations</li> </ul>
NGP Advisory Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group (ACHAG)</li> <li>Water Technical Advisory Group</li> <li>Biodiversity Advisory Group</li> <li>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Advisory Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Advisory Groups have an independent Chair and members as appointed by NSW Planning and Industry as specified below:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One member representing the scientific community, one member representing Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council, one member representing Wee Waa Local Aboriginal Land Council and two members representing the Gomeroi Native Title Group.</li> <li>Two members representing the scientific community, one member representing Narrabri Shire Council, 3 members representing local groundwater users and/or landholders.</li> <li>Three members representing the scientific community, one member representing the aboriginal community, three members representing the community and one BCD representative.</li> <li>Two members representing the scientific community and one member representing the DPIE.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
NGP Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group consists of an Independent Chair, four Native Title representatives, four Narrabri and Wee Waa Local Aboriginal Land Council representatives and one Santos representative as per Schedule 6, Section 3 of the Narrabri Gas Project Cultural Heritage Management Plan.</li> </ul>
Project contact information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A generic email address <a href="mailto:Energy.NSW@santos.com">Energy.NSW@santos.com</a> and contact telephone number are included on all printed material to ensure the community can seek information on work program activities and provide feedback.</li> </ul>
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santos maintains a project website <a href="http://narrabrigasproject.com.au">narrabrigasproject.com.au</a> with current information, minutes from CCC meetings and Advisory groups, environmental approvals and forthcoming activities</li> </ul>
Fact sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fact sheets are available to support consultation activities and provide a detailed overview of activities undertaken within PEL 238</li> </ul>
Activity update reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A monthly activity update for PEL 238 is prepared and emailed to key stakeholders including Government agencies, key industry and community organisations and other subscribers providing an update on current and future activities.</li> </ul>
Media updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santos provides information through print media including advertisements and media releases on key announcements</li> <li>Facebook and Twitter pages are maintained to provide information through social media channels</li> <li>Updates on Santos activities are published monthly the Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News</li> </ul>

Consultation Tools	Description of Activity
Shopfront	– Santos maintains a Shopfront in Narrabri that has printed information and displays aimed to build awareness and understanding of project objectives and staff available to answer questions
Community site tours	– Community Site Tours to visit operations sites in PEL 238 have been limited to an on-request basis during the reporting period due to NSW Public Health Orders, internal Santos COVID-19 protocols and inclement weather conditions.
Face to face meetings	– Regular meetings are scheduled with key stakeholders to provide information and opportunity for potential issues to be raised and addressed
Attendance at community events and agricultural shows	– Santos usually attends the local agricultural show in Narrabri, AgQuip and other relevant community events to enable the community to seek information on Santos' activities and provide feedback
Community Participation	– Santos participates in relevant local groups and committees to ensure that current information is provided on Santos' activities and potential issues are identified and resolved.

## 2.4 Stakeholder Identification and Activities Undertaken

PEL 238 stakeholders have been grouped according to their level of interest in the work program and the potential impact of exploration and appraisal activities:

- Local, State and Federal Government departments and elected representatives
- Industry groups and regional organisations
- Landholders
- Local Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal Land Councils
- Local community
- Local businesses and contractors
- Media

In order to ensure that changes in stakeholder needs and requirements are considered and incorporated into the Community Consultation Plan and delivery framework, the level of engagement and participation of stakeholders as well as their desired level of involvement are continuously monitored and re-evaluated.

**Table 2: Consultation Activities Undertaken by Stakeholder Group**

Local, State and Federal Government departments and elected representatives	
<b>Objective:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Consult with relevant agencies to progress the development of the Project</li> <li>– Keep government informed of project activities and ensure timely and relevant information provided to elected representatives and departmental staff</li> <li>– Build awareness and understanding of project objectives and benefits among departmental staff and elected representatives</li> <li>– Promote two-way communication to ensure that the concerns of the community are identified early and addressed appropriately</li> </ul>	
Stakeholder Group	Activities
<b>Local government</b>	
Narrabri Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Regular meetings with General Manager</li> <li>– Briefings to Mayor and Councillors as required</li> <li>– Council representatives on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>– Meetings with project officers in relation to operational matters (e.g., roads, planning)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Presentations to Council and consultation on relevant management plans required as conditions of consent for Project</li> <li>– Santos representative/s attend the Narrabri Shire Council Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) quarterly meetings and weekly/monthly COVID-19 specific LEMC meetings</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website and emailed directly to subscribers</li> </ul>
Gunnedah Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face-to-face and electronic meetings</li> <li>– Project briefings as required</li> </ul>
<b>State government</b>	
NSW Environment Protection Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face-to-face meetings</li> <li>– Field tours and inspections</li> <li>– Technical consultations</li> <li>– Regular meetings in relation to regulatory activities</li> <li>– Departmental representatives on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
NSW Resources Regulator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face-to-face meetings</li> <li>– Field tours and inspections</li> <li>– Technical consultations and meetings in relation to regulatory activities</li> </ul>
Department of Regional NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Representative Chaired Narrabri Gas Project CCC (to December 2020)</li> <li>– Face-to-face meetings</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
Forestry Corporation of NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Field visits and site inspections</li> <li>– Consultation on relevant management plans required as conditions of consent for Project</li> <li>– Liaison with project officers as landholders in PEL tenure</li> <li>– Written notification of activities where required, including environmental surveys and investigations on FCNSW administered land</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update</li> <li>– Quarterly meetings</li> </ul>
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face-to-face meetings</li> <li>– Regular meetings in relation to regulatory activities and Project consent conditions</li> <li>– Departmental representatives on Narrabri Gas Project CCC until December 2020, departmentally appointed Independent Chair from January 2021</li> <li>– Technical consultations and Project briefings</li> <li>– Liaison with project officers in Division of Resources and Geoscience and Title Services for tenure administration</li> <li>– Liaison with project officers as landholders in PEL tenure as required (Lands Division, NPWS)</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update (Lands, Water, NPWS)</li> <li>– Representative/s attend the Narrabri Shire Council Local Emergency Management Committee quarterly meetings and a Santos representative also attends these meetings.</li> </ul>
Transport for NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Technical consultations and Project briefings</li> <li>– Consultation on relevant management plans required as conditions of consent for Project</li> <li>– Written notification of environmental surveys and investigations on TFN administered land</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
NSW Department of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative/s attend the Narrabri Shire Council Local Emergency Management Committee quarterly meetings and COVID-19 meetings and a Santos representative also participates</li> </ul>
Rural Fire Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face to face meetings</li> <li>Technical consultations for bushfire planning and relevant management plans required as conditions of consent for Project</li> <li>Santos participants attend the Mining Industry Fire Safety Meeting chaired by RFS</li> <li>Santos desktop emergency training exercise participants</li> <li>Representative/s attend the Narrabri Shire Council Local Emergency Management Committee quarterly meetings and a Santos representative also attends these meetings.</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
NSW Police Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-face meetings</li> <li>Project briefings at key project milestones</li> <li>Santos desktop emergency training exercise participants</li> <li>Representative/s attend the Narrabri Shire Council Local Emergency Management Committee quarterly meetings and a Santos representative also attends these meetings.</li> <li>Consultations associated with staff welfare and site security</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
<b>Federal government</b>	
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical consultations, meetings and presentations associated with Federal EPBC Project assessment</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
CSIRO Gas Industry Social Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> <li>Technical consultations in relation to the Project</li> <li>Project briefings at key project milestones</li> <li>Santos representative on the Regional Research Advisory Committee</li> </ul>
<b>Industry groups and regional organisations</b>	
<b>Objective:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult with key stakeholders to progress the development of the Project</li> <li>Raise awareness of PEL 238 exploration and appraisal activities, the Project and natural gas industry in NSW</li> <li>Provide an opportunity for engagement on specific areas of interest to their organisation</li> <li>Consult with members in relation to the management and mitigation of potential impacts relevant to the organisation and communicate project benefits</li> <li>Promote two-way communication to ensure that the concerns of the community are identified early and addressed appropriately</li> </ul>	
<b>Stakeholder Group</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>Industry groups</b>	
Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-face meetings as required</li> <li>Project briefings / information on key initiatives</li> <li>Activity updates as required</li> </ul>
Joint Venture Partners (prior to equity acquisition by Santos NSW Pty Ltd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-face meetings as required</li> <li>Project briefings / information on key initiatives</li> <li>Activity updates as required</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>
<b>Regional organisations</b>	
NSW Farmers Association (local level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>
Country Women's Association (local level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>

Namoi Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative on Narrabri Gas Project CCC to December 2020 (did not attend a meeting during the reporting period)</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>
Local Land Services North West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> <li>Representative on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website and emailed directly to subscribers</li> </ul>
Cotton Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-face meetings as required</li> <li>Project briefings / information on key initiatives</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>
Lower Namoi Cotton Growers Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative on Narrabri Gas Project CCC until December 2020 and member community participant from January 2021(also disseminated information and presentation materials to Cotton Australia network)</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>
Regional Development Australia – Northern Inland NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative (through Narrabri Chamber of Commerce) on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>

### Landholders (direct, activity area, regional context and Government)

#### Objective:

- Consult with key stakeholders to progress the development of the Project
- Build landholder awareness and understanding of project objectives and benefits
- Inform and actively engage landholders to ensure accurate, timely and relevant information is provided
- Provide technical information needed to understand the activities that we propose and provide updates on timing and scope of Santos' activities
- Build relationships with landholders to ensure Santos has a clear understanding of landholder issues and resolution of these issues
- Foster open and transparent dialogue between Santos and the agricultural communities in which we operate

Stakeholder Group	Activities
Private landholders – direct: Landholders that host Santos activities on their property and with which Santos has an access agreement (for example, Exploration Land Access Agreement, easement, written consent to undertake environmental studies).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular face-to-face meetings as required</li> <li>Technical consultations in relation to the Project</li> <li>Written and verbal notification of survey, environmental investigations, and activities on their land</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website and emailed directly to subscribers</li> <li>Santos information stall at Narrabri Show April 2022</li> <li>Attended NSW Farmers' Conference networking event in July 2022</li> <li>Santos information stall at AgQuip August 2022</li> </ul>
Private landholders – activity area: Landholders in the Project area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular face-to-face meetings as required</li> <li>Small number of field tours for key stakeholders only due to COVID-19 restrictions</li> <li>Technical consultations in relation to the Project</li> <li>Written and verbal notification of survey, environmental investigations, and activities on their land</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> <li>Santos information stall at Narrabri Show April 2022</li> <li>Attended NSW Farmer's Conference networking event in July 2022</li> <li>Santos information stall at AgQuip August 2022</li> </ul>
Private landholders – regional context: Regional context: Landholders in PEL 238 or other tenements that Santos has in NSW.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement and consultation with landholders in the regional context has been undertaken through established industry representative bodies such as NSW Farmers, Cotton Australia, Local Land Services and Local Government representatives.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small number of field tours for key stakeholders only due to COVID-19 restrictions</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> <li>Information communicated through media outlets and other established communication channels</li> <li>Santos information stall at Narrabri Show April 2022</li> <li>Attended NSW Farmer's Conference networking event in July 2022</li> <li>Santos information stall at AgQuip August 2022</li> </ul>
<b>Government landholders</b>	
Forestry Corporation of NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-face meetings</li> <li>Field visits and site inspections</li> <li>Consultation on relevant management plans required as conditions of consent for Project</li> <li>Regular discussion with project officers as landholders in Project area</li> <li>Ongoing liaison during fire season and provision of access to Santos weather monitoring data, water points, equipment and camera facilities for bushfire watch and suppression activities</li> <li>Written notification of environmental surveys and investigations on FCNSW administered land</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> <li>Quarterly Meetings</li> </ul>
Narrabri Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular meetings with the General Manager</li> <li>Meetings and presentations to Mayor and councillors as required</li> <li>Technical consultations in relation to the Project including consultation on relevant management plans required as conditions of consent for Project</li> <li>Council representatives on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>Meetings with project officers in relation to operational matters (e.g., roads, planning)</li> <li>Written notification of environmental surveys and investigations on Council administered land</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> <li>Santos Festival of Rugby</li> </ul>
DPIE (Crown Lands)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written notification of environmental surveys and investigations on Crown Lands administered land</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
Transport for NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written notification of environmental surveys and investigations on TFN administered land</li> <li>Technical consultations in relation to the Project including consultation on relevant management plans required as conditions of consent for Project</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
Local Land Services North West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LLS representative on Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>Consultations with staff in relation to pest management activities in regional area</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
National Parks and Wildlife Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaison with project officers as landholders in PEL tenure as required</li> <li>Representative/s attend the Narrabri Shire Council Local Emergency Management Committee quarterly meetings and a Santos representative also attends these meetings</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update</li> </ul>
<b>Local Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal Land Councils</b>	

**Objective:**

- Consult with key Aboriginal community members to assess the potential benefits and impacts associated with the Project
- Provide opportunities for Aboriginal community members ask questions and raise matters about project activity to ensure the community remains informed of activities
- Consult with the community to explore and promote opportunities for Aboriginal participation
- Negotiate a successful Native Title outcome with the Gomeroi applicant group

Stakeholder Group	Activities
Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face-to-face meetings as required</li> <li>– Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council has a representative on Narrabri Gas Project CCC, and one representative on the Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group and three representatives on the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group.</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> <li>– Sponsorship partnership to support initiatives of benefit to the Aboriginal community</li> </ul>
Wee Waa Local Aboriginal Land Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face to face meetings as required</li> <li>– Wee Waa Local Aboriginal Land Council has a representative on Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group.</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> </ul>
Native Title and Gomeroi Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Native Title negotiations with the Gomeroi applicant continued throughout the reporting period.</li> <li>– Negotiations with the applicant are ongoing.</li> <li>– Gomeroi Applicant Group has two representatives on Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group and four representatives on the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group.</li> </ul>
Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face to face meetings as required</li> </ul>
Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face to face meetings as required</li> </ul>

**Local community (including clubs and community groups)**
**Objective:**

- Build awareness and understanding of the Project objectives
- Inform and actively engage the community to ensure accurate, timely and relevant information is available
- Seek community input to identify and address potential impacts and communicate benefits of the Project
- Develop and contribute to community partnerships to ensure regional communities hosting Santos activities receive direct benefits

Stakeholder Group	Activities
Clubs and Community Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Santos Shopfront in Narrabri with staff and resources available for information and to answer questions</li> <li>– Face-to-face meetings on request</li> <li>– CCC minutes and presentations available on website</li> <li>– Advisory Group minutes and presentations available on website</li> <li>– Santos community grant and sponsorship initiatives</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> <li>– Community site tours and participation in community activities.</li> </ul>
General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Santos Shopfront in Narrabri with staff and resources available for information and to answer questions</li> <li>– CCC minutes and presentations available on website</li> <li>– Advisory Group minutes and presentations available on website</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> <li>Community site tours and participation in community activities</li> </ul>
<b>Other community organisations:</b>	
People for the Plains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative attended Narrabri Gas Project CCC meetings</li> <li>Respond to enquiries and correspondence when applicable</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates</li> </ul>
Lock the Gate Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Media postings on significant announcements</li> <li>Respond to social media commentary when applicable</li> </ul>
Knitting Nanas Against Gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Media postings on significant announcements</li> <li>Respond to social media commentary when applicable</li> </ul>
North West Protection Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Media postings on significant announcements</li> <li>Respond to enquiries and correspondence when applicable</li> </ul>
<b>Local business and contractors</b>	
<b>Objective:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build awareness and understanding of project objectives and benefits within the business community</li> <li>Inform and actively engage vendors and service providers to ensure accurate, timely and relevant information is available</li> <li>Provide procurement opportunities for local businesses and vendors</li> <li>Enable regional communities hosting Santos activities opportunities for direct economic benefits</li> </ul>	
<b>Stakeholder Group</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Narrabri Chamber of Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santos is a member of Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce and a representative attends meetings</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> </ul>
Narrabri Industrial Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santos is a member of Narrabri Industrial Network and a representative attends meetings and events</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> </ul>
Local businesses and vendors	Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers
<b>Media</b>	
<b>Objective:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use media channels to build awareness and understanding of project objectives and benefits within the community</li> <li>Inform the community to ensure accurate, timely and relevant information is available</li> <li>Provide technical information needed to understand the activities that we propose</li> <li>Enhance the level of project knowledge among community members</li> </ul>	
<b>Print and television</b> Narrabri Courier Northern Daily Leader Gunnedah Times The Land newspaper Sydney Daily Telegraph ABC Landline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Field tours on request</li> <li>Activity notifications</li> <li>Interviews on key issues or activities</li> <li>Advertorials and/or media releases on significant events</li> <li>Monthly Activity Update in Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News, on the Project website, and emailed directly to subscribers</li> <li>Santos Proudly Australian television commercials</li> </ul>
<b>Social media</b> Facebook Twitter Instagram Web	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of community activities and events</li> <li>Links to Activity Updates in local papers and website</li> <li>Industry news</li> <li>Website updates with environmental approvals and current information</li> <li>Narrabri Gas Project CCC minutes and presentations on website</li> <li>Narrabri Gas Project Advisory Group/s minutes and presentation on website</li> </ul>



### 3. Outcomes of Consultation

There has been an extensive program of community engagement and consultation in relation to the Project since July 2013. The effectiveness of this ongoing program is demonstrated by the level of support and diminished concern within the local community for the Project. In addition, there is increased awareness of the potential impacts and benefits. As the community consultation program has been in place for a relatively long period, activities and associated tools for consultation are well entrenched. In addition, the relationship with existing stakeholders is strong. Activities are reviewed regularly to ensure that new stakeholders and emerging issues are identified early and can be incorporated into ongoing consultation strategies.

A large component of our consultation activities during the reporting period was related to communicating the outcome of the Project approval by the IPC in September 2020. This has been followed by a subsequent approval by the Federal Minister for the Environment in November 2020. This has generated a number of enquiries from the community, landholders and stakeholders in relation to the timing of Project commencement; opportunities for employment with Santos; enquiries from private landholders in relation to opportunities for land access agreements; and procurement and sales opportunities for businesses and contractors from the local and broader regional area.

During the first half of the reporting period, a number of inquiries have been received from landholders and the community regarding the renewal process of PEL 238 and the review and renewal of licences in other tenements. Generally, questions related to which areas would be included in the renewed PEL area. In addition, questions related to what this meant for current and future exploration activities in PEL 238 and domestic gas supply in the future.

In July 2021, the NSW Government released the Future of Gas Statement outlining their plans for the gas industry in NSW. This statement rules out gas production under the majority of PELs, except for those supporting the Narrabri Gas Project. As a result, the total area covered by PELs has been reduced by 77 percent, with the exception of licenses supporting the Narrabri Gas Project. Proponents, industry bodies, regional communities, and landowners gained some clarity from the Statement regarding which areas would be subject to the renewal of PELs. The NSW Government will amend the Mining State Environmental Planning Policy to reflect these changes. Santos welcomed the renewal of PEL 238 for an additional five years on 12 April 2022.

Santos implemented several initiatives including a media release, telephone calls and emails to communicate this information to stakeholders in the relevant regional communities. In addition, it answered questions that arose. The PEL renewal process and subsequent renewal for PEL 238 and of licences in other tenements generated a number of enquiries from landholders and the community in relation to which areas were likely to be included in renewed PEL areas and what this meant for current and future exploration activities in PEL 238 and other tenements.

The community has also expressed interest in the Judicial Review proceedings that were heard at the NSW Land and Environment Court from 30 August 2021 in response to an appeal filed by Mullaley Gas and Pipeline Accord, which was represented by the Environmental Defenders Office. There was an appeal by the group against the IPC's approval of the Narrabri Gas Project and its consideration of potential environmental impacts of the transmission pipeline as well as engagement with greenhouse gas emissions and their potential impact on climate change and the environment. Information relevant to their enquiries is already publicly available in the Narrabri Gas Project SSD 6456 Development Consent and Statement of Reasons for Decision, which are available on the IPC website. The NSW Land and Environment Court dismissed the Mullaley Gas and Pipeline Accord's legal challenge to the Independent Planning Commission's (IPC's) conditional approval of the Narrabri Gas Project on 18 October 2021.

In addition to developing and implementing requirements associated with the 134 conditions of Project consent, Santos has established the Narrabri Gas Project CCC as well as Advisory Groups for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, Biodiversity, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Water Technical Advisory Groups. In November 2020, DPIE appointed an Independent Chair for these groups, and Santos worked with the Department and the Chair to solicit expressions of interest from community groups and interested individuals to serve as committee members. In addition, nominations were referred to DPIE for approval for experts to represent the scientific community on the various groups. Three were approved for appointment to the Biodiversity Advisory Group, two were approved for appointment to the Greenhouse Gas Advisory Group, and two were approved to be appointed to the Water Technical Advisory Group. The project website contains minutes and presentations from meetings held by all groups during the reporting period.

As a condition of consent, Santos has progressed with the preparation, consultation, and lodgement of the Management Plans required during the reporting period, including consulting with a variety of stakeholders, including the CCC, Advisory Groups for relevant Plans, staff from various state and local government agencies, as well as landowners and members of the community. Inclusions and amendments resulting from the consultation process have been incorporated into the plans where appropriate. At the time of reporting, Santos had lodged 23 Management Plans and associated sub plans, of which five had been approved by DPIE.

During the reporting period, on-the-ground project activity in PEL 238 was mainly focused on routine operations associated with the current pilot appraisal wells and planning for future activities. This has included:

- Monitoring of ecological conditions and groundwater for compliance with the Environmental Protection Licence throughout the period;
- seasonal ecological surveys undertaken to assist in planning future work activities; and
- the operation of the Wilga Park Power Station.

A variety of methods were used to communicate the timing and purpose of these activities to neighbouring landowners, the Narrabri Shire Council, the Narrabri Gas Project CCC and the local community, including emails, telephone calls, Monthly Activity Updates, and placement of advertisements in the Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News regarding upcoming activities. No concerns have been expressed by stakeholders or the community regarding these activities.

Santos engages in ongoing consultations with landowners, local and state governments, community groups, and other stakeholders relevant to PEL 238. These include:

- Contact with landholders with land access agreements and neighbouring landowners of the Leewood and Wilga Park Power Station facilities on a regular basis;
- Santos maintains regular contact with staff from Forestry Corporation of NSW, which manages the land on which much of its infrastructure and activities are located;
- Attending meetings and site inspections with state government representatives, including representatives of regulatory agencies, as well as regularly meeting with local government staff and elected representatives;
- Meetings of the NGP Community Consultative Committee (CCC), which is independently chaired by an appointee appointed by DPIE and has representatives from Narrabri Shire Council, Country Women's Association of NSW, North West Local Land Services, Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council, NSW Farmers, Narrabri Chamber of Commerce, People for the Plains, as well as community members;
- Meetings of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group; Biodiversity Advisory Group; Greenhouse Gas Emissions Advisory Group; and Water Technical Advisory Group that are independently chaired by a nominee of the DPIE;
- Liaison with contractors and local businesses through participation in Narrabri Industrial Network meetings and Narrabri and Gunnedah Chambers of Commerce meetings;
- Liaison with emergency services personnel from NSW Police, Rural Fire Service, Hunter New England Health, Local Land Services, State Emergency Service, Transport for NSW, Environment Protection Authority, and the Resources Regulator through attendance at quarterly Local Emergency Management Committee meetings and scheduled teleconferences;
- A close working relationship with the Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council, partnership arrangements through our sponsorship and grants program, and participation in community activities when appropriate;
- Native Title negotiations with the Gomerai Native Title Applicant Group is ongoing with the matter currently before the National Native Title Tribunal.

The development of the natural gas industry in PEL 238 and in NSW as a whole remains controversial among some local residents, those groups in opposition to natural gas development have opportunities to raise concerns directly with Santos or through formal channels such as Community Consultative Committee (CCC) and community information sessions. Membership of the CCC enables information sharing regarding Santos' NSW operations and activities. The following table summarizes the outcomes of the consultations conducted during the reporting period; the issues and opportunities identified during consultations with each stakeholder group; and the effectiveness of these consultations. Section 5 - Enquiries Received and Actions Taken contains a list of issues identified (by theme) and the actions taken.

**Table 3: Outcomes of Consultation by Stakeholder Group**

Local, State and Federal Government departments and elected representatives		
<b>Matters identified:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Narrabri Gas Project approval outcomes, progress and timing of project development</li> <li>– Groundwater modelling, monitoring and management</li> <li>– Produced water treatment and management strategy for by-product salts</li> <li>– Industry coexistence with agriculture and existing land uses</li> <li>– Local procurement and business opportunities</li> <li>– NSW Future of Gas Statement and outcomes</li> <li>– PEL renewal process</li> </ul>		
Outcomes	Activities	Effectiveness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Kept government informed of activities and provided regular briefings to appropriate staff</li> <li>– Ensured relevant elected representatives and ministerial staff were given access to information on Santos activities and opportunities to provide feedback and identify issues</li> <li>– Built awareness and understanding of the objectives and benefits among departmental staff and elected representatives</li> <li>– Ensured that information and engagement relating to project activities was accurate, timely and relevant</li> <li>– Ensured that communication was and remains two-way and that issues and concerns are identified early and addressed appropriately</li> <li>– Ensured that departments have the opportunity to advise Santos of concerns that are brought to their attention by the community</li> <li>– Provided information and access to technical experts to address issues raised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Regular meetings have been held with Government agencies and elected representatives</li> <li>– Project briefings with representatives on the progress of the Narrabri Gas Project development as required.</li> <li>– Several meetings with State agencies to inform technical components of the Project approval</li> </ul> <p>Narrabri Shire Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Monthly meetings with the General Manager</li> <li>– Monthly activity update emailed to subscribed Council staff and elected representatives</li> <li>– Specific briefings on matters of topical interest or new activities.</li> <li>– Technical briefings relating to potential gas supply to the proposed Narrabri Shire Inland Port</li> </ul> <p>DPIE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ongoing liaison in relation to Project development and implementing conditions of consent including the appointment of Independent Chair for CCC and Advisory Groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face to face meetings and briefings are effective in relation to regulatory functions undertaken by various agencies</li> <li>– On-site inspections and field tours are effective for project familiarisation and site specific assessments locally</li> <li>– Consistent feedback from State government staff visiting operational locations is that it is invaluable to them in understanding the activities being proposed within the regional and site context</li> <li>– There are mature relationships and established communication networks in place with Local Government and State Government agencies with a direct interest or regulatory role in project activities</li> <li>– The Narrabri Gas Project CCC is an effective forum for engagement between Government, Santos and the community.</li> </ul>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Implemented changes to activities to address issues raised where appropriate</li> <li>– Engaged with DPIE and IPC staff members in relation to the EIS assessment</li> <li>– Ongoing liaison in addressing conditions of consent associated with Project approval</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Regular officer level meetings associated with the preparation of management plans</li> </ul> <p>Environment Protection Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ongoing liaison in relation to the EPL and regulatory activities</li> <li>– Regular officer level meetings associated with the preparation of management plans</li> <li>– Eight EPA staff participated in the field tour and six in the briefing session in March 2021</li> </ul> <p>Resources Regulator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ongoing liaison in relation to regulatory activities.</li> </ul>	
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#### Industry groups and regional organisations

##### Matters identified:

- Narrabri Gas Project approval outcomes, progress and timing of project development
- Great Artesian Basin and protection of aquifers
- Monitoring efforts and data
- NSW Future of Gas Statement and outcomes
- PEL renewal process
- Narrabri Special Activation Precinct
- Potential gas supply to the proposed Narrabri Shire Inland Port

Outcomes	Activity Level	Effectiveness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Raised awareness of PEL 238 exploration and appraisal program and Narrabri Gas Project approval</li> <li>– Engaged with stakeholders on specific areas of interest</li> <li>– Responded to concerns regarding the management and mitigation of potential impacts</li> <li>– Provided information and access to technical experts to address issues raised</li> <li>– Implemented changes to activities to address issues raised where appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Information booth at AgQuip at Gunnedah</li> <li>– Attendance at Narrabri Show in April 2022 but attendance at other regional show was not possible due to resource constraints.</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Updates were published in the Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News and distributed to subscribers</li> <li>– A quarterly Community newsletter to stakeholders to keep community members informed on Santos activities</li> <li>– Regular updates were provided to key stakeholders on Project approval and implementation of conditions of consent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– On-site inspections and field tours where possible have been effective for project officers understanding the regional and site context and to ask questions of technical experts</li> <li>– The Narrabri Gas Project CCC is an effective forum for engagement between Government, Santos and the community</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Updates distributed and read by industry group members, prompting follow up questions on occasion</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive community response to NSW Government Special Activation Precinct and potential supply of gas to Inland Port</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santos staff continue to be available face to face, telephone and email and participate in scheduled meetings with Local Emergency Management Committee and participate in corporate events such as the APPEA conference</li> </ul>
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#### Landholders (direct, activity area, regional context and Government)

##### Matters identified:

- Narrabri Gas Project approval outcomes, progress and timing of project development
- Groundwater modelling, monitoring and management
- Produced water treatment and management strategies and opportunities to access treated produced water
- Local procurement and business opportunities
- Local employment opportunities
- Opportunities for negotiating land access agreements
- NSW Future of Gas Statement and outcomes
- PEL renewal process
- Narrabri Gas Project CCC representatives

Outcomes	Activities	Effectiveness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintained relationships with landholders with whom we have access agreements and responded promptly to any concerns raised</li> <li>Built relationships with landholders in the PEL 238 area and answered questions on Santos activities</li> <li>Provided technical experts to respond to issues raised by landholders</li> <li>Provided updates on Santos activities to landholders within project area including letters to landholders in relation to the approval of the Narrabri Gas Project</li> <li>Fostered open and transparent dialogue between Santos and landholders in activity areas</li> <li>Provided opportunities for agricultural industry representatives to ask questions and raise matters relating to CSG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately 25 face-to-face meetings have been held with landholders</li> <li>Santos Land Access staff also have individual meetings with landholders with activities being undertaken on their property or those directly adjacent to current exploration and appraisal activities.</li> <li>Government landholders have received monthly updates on Santos's activities</li> <li>The Forestry Corporation of NSW, the largest landholder in the project area, receives regular updates on Santos activities and staff from both organisations retain good communication channels for operational matters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular telephone, text, email and face to face meetings with landholders that have agreements or a strong interest in project activities is very effective as landholders develop a personal relationship with land access staff</li> <li>Face to face meetings and briefings, where possible have been undertaken to keep landholders informed in relation to specific activities being undertaken</li> <li>The Narrabri Gas Project CCC is an effective forum for engagement between Government, Santos and the community.</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates published in the local newspaper are acknowledged as being relevant and informative</li> <li>The Narrabri Courier newspaper and Wee Waa News are widely read locally</li> </ul>

and regarded as useful sources of information to landholders

## Local Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal Land Council

### Matters identified:

- Narrabri Gas Project approval outcomes, progress and timing of project development
- Indigenous business development and employment opportunities
- The protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan
- Native Title negotiations
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group
- NSW Future of Gas Statement and outcomes
- Narrabri Gas Project CCC representatives
- Santos Community Investment Program

Outcomes	Activities	Effectiveness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Progressed Native Title negotiations with the Gomeroi.</li> <li>– Built awareness and understanding of the NGP for members of LALC</li> <li>– Assisted the local Aboriginal community to assess the potential benefits and impacts associated with the Project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Gomeroi applicant has met with Santos during the reporting period and negotiations with the applicant are ongoing.</li> <li>– The CEO of the Narrabri LALC is a member of the Narrabri Gas Project CCC</li> <li>– Board members of Narrabri and Wee Waa LALC are members of the Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group for the consultation and implementation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan</li> <li>– Gomeroi Applicant Group representatives are members of the Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group for the consultation and implementation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan</li> <li>– Santos has supported a number of community initiatives through the Community Investment Program including contribution to NLALC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face to face meetings and briefings are effective and well received in relation to specific activities being undertaken</li> <li>– The Narrabri Gas Project CCC is an effective forum for engagement between Government, Santos and the community with the Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council represented on the Committee.</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Updates published in the local newspaper and emailed to NLALC</li> <li>– The Narrabri Courier newspaper is widely read and regarded as a useful source of information</li> <li>– Posts to social media, particularly Facebook are effective for providing information on activities occurring in the local area</li> </ul>



	kitchen upgrade and holding of culturally significant events.	
<b>Local community (including clubs and community groups)</b>		
<b>Matters identified:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Narrabri Gas Project approval outcomes, progress and timing of project development</li> <li>PEL 238 exploration and appraisal program progress and timing</li> <li>Groundwater modelling, monitoring and management</li> <li>Produced water treatment and management strategies</li> <li>Local procurement and business opportunities</li> <li>Local employment opportunities</li> <li>Santos Community Program funding</li> </ul>		
Outcomes	Activities	Effectiveness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built awareness and understanding of project objectives and benefits within the community</li> <li>Provided accurate, timely and relevant information on activities Santos is undertaking, or proposing to undertake</li> <li>Provided technical information that the community requested to understand activities occurring</li> <li>Narrabri Gas Project CCC, a forum wherein community representatives can ask questions and raise matters relating to CSG industry performance</li> <li>Provided multiple opportunities for the community and Santos to proactively discuss, identify and resolve issues</li> <li>Positive community response to Project approval, announcement of Government commitment to future gas industry in NSW through the <i>Strategic Opportunities for Gas in Regional NSW</i> and <i>Future of Gas Statement</i> and announcement of Special Activation Precinct for Narrabri; Narrabri Shire Council Inland Port and potential for gas to be available for industry including potential for a fertiliser plant locally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community site tours usually undertaken monthly have been on hold due to COVID-19 social distancing, travel and site access restrictions.</li> <li>Statements and news stories published in local media and posted to social media about various aspects of our work provide information on current activities, community events and project milestones</li> <li>Activity updates are placed in the Narrabri Courier and Wee Waa News monthly</li> <li>Santos exhibited at AgQuip, a major event in the rural calendar for many businesses and individuals operating in the pastoral and agricultural sector of New South Wales</li> <li>Santos held an information stall at the Narrabri Show.</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates emailed to approximately 430 individuals and groups each month</li> <li>One local traineeship completed in the reporting period, with another to be completed in November 2022.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The shopfront in Narrabri is available to members of the public seeking information on project activities</li> <li>Feedback on Community Site Tours when these can be hosted is positive</li> <li>Santos' contribution as a sponsor and supporter of community initiatives helps to promote and maintain a knowledge of Santos' activities and reinforces that we are an active community participant including assisting in times of need</li> <li>The Narrabri Gas Project CCC is an effective forum for engagement between Government, Santos and the community</li> <li>Monthly Activity Updates published in the local newspapers are seen to be informative and satisfactory for those that have an indirect interest in project activities</li> </ul>
<b>Local business and contractors</b>		
<b>Matters identified:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Narrabri Gas Project approval outcomes, progress and timing of project development</li> </ul>		

- training and skills development opportunities
- local procurement and business opportunities
- local employment opportunities
- supply of gas to the proposed Narrabri Shire Inland Port

Outcomes	Activities	Effectiveness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Positive response to commitment to give preference to procurement outcomes that support local business and employment</li> <li>– Hosted business and contractor information forum November 2020</li> <li>– Introduced contractor procurement representatives to local business representatives</li> <li>– Outlined requirements, processes and procedures required to potentially supply goods and services to Santos.</li> <li>– Positive response to Project approval, announcement of Government commitment to future gas industry in NSW through the <i>Strategic Opportunities for Gas in Regional NSW</i> and <i>Future of Gas Statement</i> and announcement of Special Activation Precinct for Narrabri for future business opportunities and economic benefits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Progressed relationships and arrangements in line with Santos' Local Industry and Indigenous Participation policy</li> <li>– Santos representatives have attended Narrabri Chamber of Commerce meetings and Gunnedah Chamber of Commerce meetings</li> <li>– Participation at meetings of the Narrabri Industrial Network</li> <li>– Monthly Activity Updates emailed to local contractors and vendors supplying to Santos or have registered to receive the update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Santos attendance at the Chamber of Commerce meetings are useful to provide suppliers and vendors with general information updates on the project and opportunity to seek more information on Santos' activities</li> <li>– Santos provided access to management and technical experts for local business and contractors requiring further information</li> </ul>

## Media

### Matters identified:

- Narrabri Gas Project approval outcomes, progress and timing of project development
- NSW gas industry and market predictions
- Land use conflict and industry co-existence with agriculture
- PEL renewal process and timing with NSW Government

Outcomes	Activities	Effectiveness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provided journalists and other media representatives with technically accurate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Statements and information have been routinely and regularly supplied to print media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Face to face meetings and briefings are effective to familiarise media representatives with the natural gas</li> </ul>

<p>information on activities being undertaken to assist with accurate reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Responded to queries or issues raised about activities in the community</li> <li>– Promoted the approval of the Project</li> <li>– Provided information and responses to enquiries in relation to topical matters including PEL renewal process, <i>Future of Gas Statement</i> and the Narrabri Special Activation Precinct</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Updates given to the local papers in relation to all important milestones for community information</li> <li>– Regular social media posts in relation to activities and community events and initiatives</li> <li>– Information updates, meeting minutes, presentations and community activities updated on Narrabri Gas Project website</li> </ul>	<p>industry in NSW and Santos' activities in PEL 238 and the Narrabri Gas Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– On-site inspections and field tours are effective for journalists' understanding of the regional and site context and to ask questions of technical experts</li> <li>– Santos providing access to management and technical experts has resulted in more balanced reporting</li> </ul>
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## 4. Proposed Future Consultation

The Community Consultation Plan will continue to guide the effective and timely implementation of consultation activities within PEL 238, in accordance with its objectives. The activities undertaken will be reviewed and adjusted regularly over the course of the project in order to reflect emerging stakeholders, issues, impacts, and benefits. In addition, they will be adjusted to reflect the additional knowledge derived from consultation activities.

Our ongoing consultations with key stakeholders and the community will ensure that we continue to build on the extensive work already accomplished to ensure the community and key stakeholders are fully informed about current and proposed future activities and continue to be able to provide timely feedback regarding our planned activities. As part of the consultation strategy, the following objectives are to be achieved:

- Developed and enhanced relationships with stakeholders, decision-makers, supporters, and opponents.
- Manage and minimise conflict risk, and resolve issues identified by new stakeholder groups and emerging community issues.
- Obtain and understand valuable local knowledge from stakeholders and the community.
- Engage stakeholders and the broader community with timely, accurate and credible information and opportunities for interaction and feedback.
- Facilitate positive outcomes for Aboriginal cultural heritage management by consulting with relevant parties and involving them in decision-making.

As a result, communication channels have been established that have proven highly effective during the reporting period for consultation.

**Table 4: Proposed Future Consultation Activities**

Consultation Activity	Frequency
NGP CCC	Independently chaired and will meet at least three times throughout the year.
NGP Advisory Groups	Independently chaired and will meet at least twice throughout the year.
NGP Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Working Group	Independently chaired and will meet at least twice throughout the year.
Face to face meetings	Regular face to face meetings will be held with key stakeholders relevant to their level of interest in activities.
Community Site Tours	Community Site Tours to visit operational sites will be advertised in the local newspaper Site tours will be provided upon request from interested community groups and other stakeholders.
Website	The website will be maintained and updated with current information.
Brochures and fact sheets	Brochures and fact sheets will be reviewed and updated. New publications will be produced as required.
Activity Update Reports	Monthly activity updates will be prepared and emailed to key stakeholders and subscribers, including NGP CCC members to disseminate to members of their respective organisations. Updates will be available on the website and included in the local newspaper.
Media and Social Media Updates	Advertisements and media releases on key announcements will continue. Santos' Facebook and Twitter pages will provide information through social media channels
Santos shopfront	The Narrabri Shopfront will have staff available to answer questions and printed information and displays.

Attendance at community events and agricultural shows	Santos will attend local agricultural shows, AgQuip, and other relevant community events.
Community Participation	Santos will continue to participate in relevant local groups and committees.

## 5. Complaints and enquiries

### 5.1 Enquiries received and complaints

Santos has implemented extensive consultation and engagement processes for its activities within PEL 238 and as a result, we receive a large number of inquiries regarding our activities and the natural gas industry as a whole.

All inquiries are answered promptly, and questions relating to a new topic are recorded in Consultation Manager for future reference. For common questions, a technical comprehensive response will be prepared so that future inquiries can be answered via Q&A, Fact Sheets or other information on our website and shopfront displays. Whenever appropriate, significant matters and recurrent questions will be introduced as agenda items at the Narrabri Gas Project CCC.

A summary of the number of consultation events recorded during the reporting period is provided in Table 5, while Table 6 provides details of the type of inquiries received and the actions taken by theme and stakeholder.

**Table 5: Consultation events recorded for reporting period**

Consultation Type	Number of Events	Approx. Number of participants
Shopfront visitors.  As a result of measures implemented to meet NSW Health objectives to limit the spread of COVID-19, the Narrabri Shopfront was open by appointment only for the first half of this reporting period and closed by decree of NSW Public Health Order from 11 August 2021 to 11 October 2021 and internal Santos COVID-19 protocols.	Approx. 70	Approximately 150 visitors (majority being local landholders and business representatives)
Website (page views)	24,306	
Generic Email:		
General enquiries	85	
Employment enquiries	12	
Contract/supply enquiries	167	
Site tour enquiries	5	
Land access enquiries	8	

Positive feedback	6	
Negative feedback	7	
Activity Updates sent directly to stakeholders	12	Avg monthly direct distribution 430
Consultation Database/s (number of entries)	Approx. 150	Transition from Consultation Manager to SRM
Advertisements, Santos generated media articles, interviews, LTEs and published Activity Updates	Approx. 85	
Field visits and Site Tours	5	127
Contractor and Vendor Forums	0	
Community events with staffed Santos display	2	150
Narrabri Gas Project Community Consultation Committee Meetings:  NGP CCC (State Significant Project CCC Guidelines)	3	Total of 43 attendees
Advisory Group Meetings:  Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group  Biodiversity Advisory Group  Greenhouse Gas Emissions Advisory Group  Water Technical Advisory Group	0  2  1  4	0 attendees  21 attendees  6 attendees  58 attendees
Meetings with Federal, State and Local Government representatives	>20	
Community Investment Program requests/enquiries (e.g., sponsorships, volunteer activities, loan of equipment)	35	>5,000 participants

**Table 6: Enquiries Received and Action Taken**

Theme	Topic	Summary	Stakeholder				Action Taken/Response
			Community	Government	Industry	Landholders	
Business and employment opportunities	Supporting local business	<p>What things are in place to support buying locally?</p> <p>Will Santos help business to be able to meet procurement requirements?</p>	■		■		<p>Santos has and continues to support the local community.</p> <p>Santos has a Local Industry and Indigenous Participation policy and became a signatory to the Business Council of Australia's Australian Supplier Payment Code for small businesses and gives preference to tenderers that maximise local content in both labour and materials.</p> <p>Contractor forums are held and Monthly Activity Update distributed and published in local newspapers to inform the local community and business of current and future opportunities.</p>
Social Responsibility	Sponsorship	Will Santos support local clubs and groups?	■			■	<p>Santos will continue to work in partnership with the local community through sponsoring, supporting and participating in community events and activities where possible with consideration of COVID-19 Public Health Order restrictions.</p>

Theme	Topic	Summary	Stakeholder				Action Taken/Response
			Community	Government	Industry	Landholders	
Water	Aquifer contamination	Will Santos' drilling program pose a risk to local aquifers?  What monitoring is in place for aquifers?	■			■	Wells will be drilled in accordance with the NSW Code of Practice on Well Integrity.  Information provided on the assessment of groundwater, referred IPC conditions of consent; Santos water monitoring framework; EPA and DPIE water monitoring initiatives
Project timing	Narrabri Gas Project development	When will Narrabri Gas Project commence?	■	■	■	■	Referred to information contained in Narrabri Gas Project approval and media announcements. Monthly Activity Update distributed and published in local newspapers to inform the local community of activities being undertaken.

## 5.2 Complaints received and action taken

Santos takes complaints received from members of the community very seriously and has a complaints procedure for reporting, managing, and resolving complaints. In this procedure, internal guidelines are outlined for the reporting and resolution of complaints. If appropriate, the case manager will refer the complaint to the appropriate regulatory authority and will work with the complainant in a timely manner to resolve the matter.

For the Dewhurst and Bibblewindi Gas Exploration Pilot Expansion Projects, the NSW Planning and Assessment Commission requires a complaints register, updated monthly and publicly accessible on the Narrabri Gas Project website. During the reporting period, there were no complaints received.

EPA is the lead regulator responsible for compliance and enforcement of all conditions of approval for onshore gas activities in NSW, excluding work health and safety issues. EPA is required by law to maintain several public registers that provide information about environmental protection measures and regulatory actions. The registers are available on the EPA website and there are no recorded actions relating to Santos during the reporting period.