

Meeting Minutes

Narrabri Gas Project (NGP) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group (ACHAG)

Meeting #8

DATE / TIME

Wednesday 20 March 2024
9.30am

LOCATION

Narrabri Shopfront Conference Room
125 Maitland Street, Narrabri
(+ Videoconference)

CHAIR

Garry West

MINUTE TAKER

Julie Herbert

ATTENDEES

- Garry West (Independent Chair)
- Jodie Benton (OzArk Culture & Heritage) VC
- Edward Trindall (Narrabri LALC)
- Janelle Twyman (Santos)
- Drew Rutch (Santos) (MS Teams)
- Ian Brown (Gomeroid Native Title Applicant Group)
- Clifford Toomey (Wee Waa LALC) (from 9.55am)
- Todd Dunn (Santos)

APOLOGIES

- Nicole Davies (Heritage NSW – DPE)
- Corey O’Driscoll (Heritage NSW – DPE)
- Dorothy Tighe (Gomeroid Native Title Applicant Group)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
Welcome	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and acknowledged Gomeroi country on which the meeting was held as well as Elders past, present and future and all Aboriginal persons present.
Declaration interest	The Chair asked if there were any new declarations of interest. None declared.
Minutes of Previous Meeting	All minutes of previous meeting distributed to ACHAG members and are available on the Narrabri Gas Project (NGP) website. The Chair noted that Haydn Kreicbergs was no longer working for Santos. Todd Dunn confirmed that Drew Rutch had been appointed to the role on the advisory group.
Actions from Previous Meeting	<p>The Chair has provided a link to the NGP Independent Environmental Audit</p> <p>The Chair is to provide a link to the DPHI portal to facilitate individual registration for automatic notifications of updates to both the HGP & NLP</p>
Correspondence	Nil correspondence received
Santos Update	<p>Santos Corporate Update (Todd Dunn)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion was held regarding the company half year and full year results – further details available via the company website https://www.santos.com/investors/company-reporting/ <p>Narrabri Gas Project Update (Janelle Twyman)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 activity continues to progress • 5 shallow bores completed between February and October 2023 • Santos will make a final investment decision once all the approvals are received supporting the development including supporting pipelines. • Micro-siting including ecological and cultural heritage scouting for Phase 2 ongoing for 2024. • The Independent Environmental Audit was completed In November 2023 and is on Narrabri Gas Project (NGP) website. • The Annual Review is to be submitted to DPHI at the end of March and will be available on the NGP website.

- Santos is currently planning for other activities which will be required prior to Phase 2, including revision of existing management plans and new management plans.

Independent Environmental Audit (Janelle Twyman)

- The Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) was required within one year of commencement and was completed in November 2023
- Its purpose was to assess Santos’ compliance against the conditions of the SSD.
- The IEA was undertaken by a team of 5 personnel all with more than 35 years of experience.
- The IEA covered the period from 30 September 2020 to 15 September 2023.
- The IEA included site inspections, interviews with project personnel and the review of Santos records, documents and data.
- There were 210 conditions audited across 9 permits
- The IEA found 131 compliant findings, 2 minor administrative non compliances, 77 not triggered findings and 89 observations.
- The two minor administrative non-compliance were:
 - All permits are required to be on the NGP website, the water access licenses weren’t. They have now been added;
 - The auditors didn’t consider that the waste management plan addressed all the requirements under the SSD. The waste management plan has been updated to provide more clarity.
- The report and Santos’s responses to the findings are available on the NGP website.

Q. Edward Trindall - What were the issues with the Waste Management Plan?

A. Janelle Twyman - Clarification was required around beneficial reuse & what constitutes a waste related incident. The plan was reworded to improve clarity.

Q. Edward Trindall - Will a copy of the report be circulated?

A. Janelle Twyman -Yes. The Chair will circulate along with Santos’ response documents.

Phase 1 Activity and Management Plans (Janelle Twyman)

- Management plans continue to be revised and updated as required.

- Minor change to one of the locations of the well pads (Dewhurst 34) resulted in a reduction of our disturbance area, however this required changes to the management plans.
- DPHI has approved 8 of the 9 revised plans following a minor change to the corehole location.
- The rehabilitation management plan is currently with the resource regulator.
- The biodiversity management plan and biodiversity offset strategy are still to be submitted.
- The recent revisions to the plans have been predominately administrative in nature.
- All the management plans and DPHI approvals of the management plans are available on the NGP website.
- Santos will progress engagement on Phase 2 / 3 management plans as required.

Q. Ian Brown - What is the total number of plans for Phase 2?

A. Janelle Twyman - 23 plans currently exist of which 11 are subplans. An additional 14 plans will be required for Phase 2.

Todd Dunn provided a brief outline of the plan approval process.

Q. Ian Brown - Has the cultural heritage survey been completed for the Narrabri Lateral Pipeline?

A. Todd Dunn - Yes. More information will be provided in the next section of the presentation.

NGP ACHAG Update – Drew Rutch (Santos) spoke to this item.

- Cultural heritage (CH) scouting – Phase 1 CH scouting (avoidance) results – no action required. Planning for surveys aligned with additional research proposal. Update to CH induction package for NGP activities planned to include additional material e.g. video content.
- Additional research project – discussed at previous ACHAG with members having a project schedule to meet and action task targets to complete the project by January 2025.
- ACHAG – meeting scheduled for Friday 22 March. Two ACHAG vacancies to be filled by the Gomeri native title party.
- Ian Brown indicated he will discuss filling with vacancies with the Gomeri Native Title Applicant Group.

National Native Title Tribunal (Todd Dunn)

- The original decision relating to the granting of Petroleum Production Lease Applications for the NGP was handed down in December 2022
- This was appealed by the Gomeroi people, and the appeal was heard in August 2023.
- The decision by the Full Federal Court was handed down in March 2024 allowing the appeal against the granting of the Petroleum Production Lease to proceed.
- The Court has determined the National Native Title Tribunal erred in law by declining to consider evidence on climate impacts and the public interest that was put forward by the Gomeroi people.
- The Court did not make any findings in relation to Santos' conduct.
- Santos has at all times negotiated with the Gomeroi people in good faith.
- The Court's orders regarding next steps are yet to be made.

Hunter Gas Pipeline (HGP) update (Todd Dunn)

- NGP & HGP are critical for energy security and reliability in NSW with 100% gas committed to the domestic market.
- HGP has been declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) by the NSW government.
- The pipeline is expected to commence Stage 2 construction in the second half of 2025, once the route is finalised and all secondary approvals are completed.
- Stage 2 will deliver gas from the NGP to the East Coast Gas Market near Newcastle with offtake points at regional towns along the route.

Q. Ian Brown - So construction will commence in 2025?

A. Todd Dunn - Yes, Stage 2 construction is expected to commence in 2025 contingent on the route being finalised and all secondary approvals completed.

Hunter Gas Pipeline – early works (Todd Dunn)

- Staging request approved by DPHI and Stage 1 – commenced in Q4 2023 with works supporting construction of the first laydown yard underway
- Stage 2 – construction and operation of the Narrabri to Newcastle section of pipeline;
- Stage 3 – construction and operation of the Wallumbilla to Narrabri section of the pipeline

- Stage 1 commenced as planned. Development to support the HGP construction has included laydown area/site office prep/future pig launcher/receiver locations, geotechnical work, minor civil works, fencing, etc.
- Management plans approved to support activity.
- Management plans being updated to incorporate additional sites.

Q. Ian Brown - What is Santos doing about the existing electricity line traversing the property hosting the Quirindi laydown yard?

A. Todd Dunn - The power line is being relocated within the property as part of the approved Stage 1 works to safely facilitate machinery movements.

Q. Ian Brown - What is the alignment width/depth?

A. Todd Dunn - The final pipeline easement will be nominally 30m wide, although the avoidance principal will be applied so it may be less in certain areas. The depth will generally be 900mm with a minimum depth of 750mm and a maximum depth of 1800mm. Currently in discussion with some landowners who require a minimum depth of 1200mm for cropping.

Hunter Gas Pipeline – landholder engagement & survey activity (Todd Dunn)

- Santos has undertaken extensive engagement for access to undertake survey activities with over of 6500 personal landholder engagements and 36 community information sessions completed. The last CIS round was completed week ending 11 March 2024.
- More than 180 lots have been surveyed to date and Santos will continue to progress land access agreements and surveys.
- The Deed of Option Easement Agreement process underway.

Narrabri Lateral Pipeline (NLP) Update (Todd Dunn)

- The project will extend 50-60kms connecting the NGP from the Leewood processing facility to the HGP east of Baan Baa.
- Designed in accordance with the Australian Standard Pipeline Gas and Liquid Petroleum (AS2885) with pipe sizing consistent with the HGP.
- Santos is continuing to engage with directly affected landholders and other stakeholders to progress survey activities including voluntary agreements.

- The March 2024 HGP/NLP Community Information Session included Boggabri and Narrabri.
- EPBC referral to Commonwealth Government is expected in Q2 2024 and Santos is considering the Pilliga bushfire impacts as part of that process.
- NLP EIS based on SEARs is expected to be submitted to the NSW DPHI in Q4 2024.

Q. Ian Brown - Were Santos assets impacted by the Pilliga bushfire?

A. Todd Dunn - There was no damage to our major infrastructure. Further information is provided in the last section of this presentation.

NLP – Cultural Heritage Assessment (Todd Dunn)

- CH assessment work was completed along the full length of the NLP from 12-15 March 2024.
- Gomeroi Native Title Party and Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council as RAPS undertook the CH assessment work in conjunction with four (4) OzArk EH participants who acted as technical advisors.
- One new CH site recorded in the Pilliga forest – a small, isolated stone artifact.
- New CH sites found outside the Pilliga forest.
- The assessment will inform cultural heritage management recommendations.
- A draft assessment report will be circulated to the RAPS

General discussion around the Pilliga Forest post bushfire, noting strong regrowth following recent rain.

Discussion around Redchief LALC participation given common border with Narrabri LALC in relation to the NLP. The importance of working on own country was acknowledged.

Q. Edward Trindall - What information is there about the sites recorded outside the forest?

A. Todd Dunn - Some sites already known from previous surveys conducted for other parties and some are additional sites. However, the assessment is yet to be finalised.

Q. Ian Brown - Does this CH assessment feed into the Commonwealth assessment?

A. Todd Dunn - No but the assessment will inform the EIS

Q. Ian Brown - Will the NLP CH assessment be circulated for review?

A. Todd Dunn - Yes, there will be an opportunity to comment on the draft report.

Exploration Program and other Updates (Janelle Twyman)

- PEL 1 – Kahlua pilot activity (workover of existing wells) – wells now online
- PEL1 – Scouting for future minimum tenure commitments.
- PEL 238/PAL2 – Operations workovers and monitoring bore completions
- PEL 238 /PAL2 – Tintsfeld Pilot workovers & pond upgrade works
- Brawboy 2 (PEL 456) P&A complete with rehabilitation to be progressed through 2024

Santos in the community (Janelle Twyman)

During 2023:

- Santos has invested approximately \$10 million into the Narrabri/Gunnedah Shire regions.
- Santos has hosted 20 community info sessions and partnered with over 50 community groups or organisations.
- Santos personnel attended 54 events or initiatives
- The Santos Festival of Rugby (SFOR) employed 40 local contractors and injected approximately \$800,000 into the community. About 3500 people attended over the weekend.

Q. Edward Trindall - When is the next SFOR planned?

A. Todd Dunn – Planning for the next SFOR in Narrabri in February 2025.

Duck Creek Pilliga Forest bushfire (Todd Dunn)

- Santos has a comprehensive bushfire management plan approved by the former DPE and this was shown to be effective.
- As a precautionary measure, our operations were shut down during the fire event. The equipment is designed to Australian standards to withstand the intensity of fires and as expected there was no damage to our major infrastructure.
- It was noted that Santos bushfire preparedness paid particular attention to asset protection zones including site clearances and weed/vegetation management.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santos provided Rural Fire Service access to the Bibblewindi water tank and ensured access to various sites as places of last resort for emergency personal. • No impact on Santos operational infrastructure, but some auxiliary infrastructure was damaged such as signage and fences and erosion and sediment control materials with remedial works currently underway. • Santos participated in the Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) coordinating assistance as requested. • Rehabilitation sites were impacted by the bushfire. Before the fire, nearly all the sites had met the completion criteria and could have been handed back to forestry, but this is now unlikely to occur. • General discussion about the bushfire progress, areas impacted, fire behaviours and changing conditions. <p>Q. Edward Trindall - Who collects seeds for use in Santos' rehabilitation sites?</p> <p>A. Todd Dunn - An authorised licensed person is required to collect seeds for use in the rehabilitation sites.</p> <p>Discussion followed on seed collection opportunities.</p>
Member updates	<p>Ian Brown (Gomerioi Native Title Applicant Group) advised that the group's next meeting would be 25-28 March, 2024 and he will aim to have a response by 29 March regarding the 2 additional reps.</p>
General Business	<p>The Chair noted the suite of meetings being held 19-20 March for the CCC and the various advisory groups. He noted that the field tour originally planned to coincide with these meetings was cancelled due to other commitments but will be rescheduled. It was noted that the ACHAG is required to meet a minimum of twice per year or more if required.</p>

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Provide a link to the DPHI portal to facilitate individual registration for automatic notifications of updates to both the HGP & NLP	Garry West as Chairperson of the ACHAG	ASAP
2	Recirculate IEA report plus Santos response document	Garry West as Chairperson of the ACHAG	Prior to next meeting

3	Advise on the opportunity for Gomerai people to be involved in the collection of seeds for Santos' rehabilitation sites	Todd Dunn	Prior to next meeting
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Next meeting

To be advised

Meeting closed

10.40am