

Meeting Minutes

Narrabri Gas Project (NGP) Water Technical Advisory Group (WTAG)

DATE / TIME

Wednesday 20 March 2024
Time: 2:00pm

LOCATION

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

CHAIR

Garry West

MINUTE TAKER

Lyn Firth

ATTENDEES

- Garry West (Independent Chair)
- Todd Dunn (Santos)
- Cate Barrett (DCCEEW) (MS Teams)
- Fabienne d’Hautefeuille (DCCEEW) (MS Teams)
- David Cameron (Community Representative)
- David Gornall (Santos) (MS Teams)
- Edward Trindall (Narrabri LALC)
- Michael Williams (Independent Expert)
- Randall Cox (Independent Expert)
- Janelle Twyman (Santos)
- Keith Phillipson (AGE) (MS Teams)

APOLOGIES

- Cr Cathy Redding (Narrabri Shire Council)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1. 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.

	Garry welcomed David Cameron who was attending his first meeting and introduced all members attending. The Chair and Todd Dunn spoke to the role of the advisory groups.
1. Declaration of interest	The Chair asked if there were any new declarations of conflict of interest. None declared.
2. Recording of minutes	The Chair asked members if there was any objection to the recording of the minutes for secretariat purposes with the audio being deleted once the minutes were finalised and approved. There was no objection.
3. Minutes from Previous Meeting	The minutes from the previous meeting (November 2023) were accepted with no changes. The minutes have been uploaded to the Narrabri Gas Project (NGP) website.
4. Action from Previous Meeting	All matters have been attended to. The Independent Environment Audit report to be circulated at the conclusion of the meeting.
2. Correspondence	Nil correspondence received.
3. 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 water bores completed between February and October 2023 Santos will make a final investment decision once all the approvals are received supporting the development including the supporting pipelines. Micro-sighting including ecological and cultural heritage scouting for Phase 2 ongoing for 2024. The Independent Environmental Audit was completed in November 2023 and is on the 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 before Phase 2, including revision of existing management plans and new management plans. <p>Q - Fabienne d’Hautefeuille – In what respect does this relate to water in the Annual Report and the audit? Is there anything that needs to be flagged now with us?</p>

A - David Gornall – I don't think there is anything material. We are still constructing the monitoring network. A specialist groundwater person was part of the audit.

Phase 1 Activity and Management Plans (Janelle Twyman)

- Management plans continue to be revised and updated in response to the ongoing changes occurring in the project.
- Todd Dunn –The management plans for this group are the Water Management Plan including the Groundwater Management Plan and the Field Development Plan for Phase 2.

Q - Randall Cox – Is there any indicative timeline for those plans?

A - Todd Dunn – We are hoping for Q4 this year.

Q – Michael Williams: You spoke about updating the groundwater model. When is that likely to be done?

A – David Gornall: We need to update the Phase1 model before we can prepare the updated Groundwater Management Plans for Phase 2. We need to be able to drill the wells to collect the core data information needed

A – David Gornall: In the meantime, we are working on the Conceptualisation Report. The plan is to get this report to the WTAG this year.

A – Todd Dunn: We are very aware of the time it takes for the review process.

- Todd also spoke to necessity of getting all the approvals through in order for Santos to sanction the NGP and indicated the time pressure they were under to get the pipeline approvals.

Q – Michael Williams: You have installed new monitoring bores. Are they being monitored now? Is data being collected?

A – David Gornall: Yes – the loggers are online but not all of the equipment is necessarily functioning and so not all monitoring data is necessarily being recorded.

Discussion followed about data and its use for Phase 2.

Independent Environment Audit (Janelle Twyman)

- The Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) was required within one year of commencement and was completed in November 2023.
- The purpose was to assess Santos' compliance against the conditions of the SSD.

- The IEA covered the period from 30 September 2020 to 15 September 2023.
- The IEA was undertaken by a team of 5 personnel, including 2 lead auditors, a groundwater specialist, a well integrity specialist and a legal reviewer.
- The IEA included site inspections, interviews with project personal and the review of Santos records, documents, and data.
- There were 210 conditions across 9 permits were audited.
- The IEA found 131 compliant findings, 2 minor administrative non compliances, 77 not triggered findings and 89 observations.
- The two administrative non-compliance issues 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.
- Documents were submitted to DPHI on 13 November 2023, and it was accepted on 30 January 2024.
- The report and Santos' response to the findings are available on the NGP website and will be distributed to all members at the conclusion of the meeting.

Q – Michael Williams: What did the audit process look like from the Santos point of view?

A – Todd Dunn : Extensive.

- Todd elaborated on the audit process and the Santos commitment to the process. He also talked about how the audit team were engaged and the evidence they required.
- David Gornall and Todd Dunn spoke about the positives that have come from the IEA:
 - There is now a framework in place which can be utilised going forward;
 - Some of the audit observations were useful in the formulation of evidence which can then be used for our operations;
 - It identifies a few opportunities in record keeping which will be useful going forward; and
 - It re-enforced that Santos are “on the right track” in their operations.

There was a discussion about the release of upcoming plans which require review from the DCCEEW and WTAG. It was felt that perhaps a meeting at the beginning of the process might be worthwhile so that the review procedure and review comments could be discussed. Fabienne d’Hautefeuille suggested that other personnel from the DCCEEW could be added to critical WTAG meetings – would save duplication of meetings. Indicative timing of the release of plans for review is critical.

Hunter Gas Pipeline (HGP) update (Todd Dunn)

- The gas from the NGP is committed to the domestic market. The gas will be taken to the market via the HGP which was given Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) status by the NSW Government.
- Feedback from surveys and landowners is being incorporated into the final design.
- Staging request was approved by DPHI and Stage 1 (early works site) commenced in Q4 2023.
- Santos is entering into agreements to build further construction sites along the route (laydown yards, machinery storage, workshops, offices, camp sites etc).
- Landowner and community engagement (along the route) continues. Over 180 sites have been surveyed to date.
- Deed of Option Easement Agreement process is underway.

Q - Michael Williams: How many agreements do you have with landowners?

A - Todd Dunn: About 300 including government landowners.

Q – Edward Trindall: How are you going in Queensland with the pipeline?

A – Todd Dunn: We are not looking at Queensland at this stage.

- There was discussion about the complexity of the project and the legal processes available to landowners.

Narrabri Lateral Pipeline(NLP) update (Todd Dunn)

- This connects the approved NGP gas processing facility at Leewood to the HGP east of Baan Baa (about 55km). It also has CSSI status.
- The design is in accordance with the Australian Standard - Pipeline Gas and Liquid Petroleum (AS 2885) .
- Landowner and community engagement continues (along the route). The EPBC referral to the Commonwealth Government has been delayed due to the Pilliga bushfires – the impact of

	<p>the fires needs to be reviewed – expected to be submitted Q2 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NLP EIS is being prepared based on the SEARs and will be placed on public exhibition for submissions by the DPHI. <p>Q - Fabienne d’Hautefeuille: Will you need water to construct/test the pipeline? A – Todd Dunn: Yes. For construction, we will need water for dust suppression and also hydro testing through commissioning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was discussion about the process of getting the required water for the project. <p>Exploration & Other Activity (Janelle Twyman)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 – Tintfield Pilot workovers & pond upgrade works Brawboy 2 (PEL 456) P&A complete with rehabilitation to be progressed through 2024.
<p>4. General Business</p>	<p>The CCC met yesterday – they meet quarterly, and their next meeting will be in June. The other advisory groups have met in the last two days. It is not possible to provide a date for the next meeting for this group. Dave Gornall spoke to his new role in Santos and will no longer be the Groundwater Lead. There will be another person appointed.</p>

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	A copy of the Independent Environmental Audit will be circulated to member participants.	Garry West as Chair	After the meeting

Next meeting

TBA

Meeting closed

3:30pm