

**NCIG Community Engagement Group (CEG) – Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting No: 3**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 5.30-8:30pm**

**Location: NCIG Administration Building**

| <b>Attendees:</b> | <b>Community Representatives</b> | <b>NCIG Representatives</b>                             |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|
|                   | John Hayes                       | Aaron Johansen – Chief Executive Officer                |
|                   | Rick Banyard                     | Nathan Juchau – Manager HSEC                            |
|                   | Lyn Kilby                        | Victor de Souza – Commercial Manager                    |
|                   | Catherine Blanch                 | Scott Grunsell – Acting Environmental Advisor           |
|                   | Alan Blanch                      | Hayley Ardagh – Graduate Environment and Sustainability |
|                   | Kenny Barry                      | Brooke Stevenson – Persona Communications               |

**Apologies received:** Lindsay Clout, Mark Warren

**Item 1: Welcome and Introductions**

- Greetings and reintroductions between the group for newcomers.
- A quick overview of the structure of the meeting provided by Nathan Juchau (NJ).

**Item 2: General Business and Operations Update**

- Aaron Johansen (AJ) provided an update of operations in the 2019 calendar year. A number of key achievements were achieved over the year including loading the 400 millionth tonne since operations commenced in 2010. Rick Banyard (RB) questioned whether NCIG's Environmental Protection Licence or Project Approval had daily throughput limits. AJ clarified that NCIG has approval for an annual throughput limit of 66 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) and throughput may fluctuate on a day to day basis based on demand.
- An overview of key projects was also provided. Throughout the year NCIG worked on a number of key projects including advanced dust management controls, Dump Station automation and preventative maintenance projects. RB questioned how NCIG will detect any remaining coal in the wagon if the Dump Station is automated. AJ clarified that detectors will be used to identify any coal hang up and the rail haulage provider will continue to utilise a Rollby Operator to inspect each train. AJ also clarified that NCIG have controls in the Dump Station to stop coal 'ploughing' to prevent residual coal on wagons. John Hayes (JH) mentioned that coal dust in the rail corridor is an issue to the community. NJ mentioned that NCIG have previously undertaken a monitoring program to identify trains which are not in acceptable condition. It was also noted that NCIG continue to have a process in place to report any trains coming to site which are not up to standard. JH acknowledged that there was a noticeable improvement with this monitoring program but believes they are seeing a deterioration again. AJ clarified that trains aren't NCIG's asset and are only able to control the train's movement through the Dump Station, however NCIG would be happy to discuss any additional measures put forward.
- AJ also spoke about a number of key health and safety achievements throughout the year including reaching 500 days Lost Time Injury Free, and the Safety Vitals Program and Bounce Health Program, which NCIG have been announced as finalist for the 2020 Hunter Safety Awards.
- NJ provided a summary of a recent environmental incident involving the Shiploader gearbox colliding with a displaced checker plate ramp. This incident was reported to the EPA. An overview of the incident follow up actions was provided to the group.

### Item 3: Sustainability Report Overview

- NJ provided a brief overview of the recently released Sustainability Report. It was noted that this is NCIG's third year to release this report and this year additional work had been undertaken to develop the report in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards and map against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). JH noted that this report was a good way to provide information to the community and thinks it's worthwhile for NCIG to map against world standards such as the SDGs.
- The group discussed the global energy market and transition away from coal. AJ noted that coal remains the largest source of energy and projections from the International Energy Agency (IEA) show that demand for renewable energy sources will increase, together with a predicted increased demand for coal in future years due to continued population growth and energy needs. NJ noted that we are a coal-related industry and will play an important role in global energy transition, and we will continue to focus on being the best we can and focus on efficiencies and minimising our impact. Alan Blanch (AB) noted that Australia have the world's highest quality coal and if Australia aren't supplying the demand, less efficient coal from countries will be used. AB also noted the need for industry to remain in Australia to provide jobs.
- JH noted that new technology is continuously emerging in Australia and around the world. JH spoke about research currently being undertaken in Australia and would like to provide resources for the group to read which can be circulated with the meeting minutes. **Action – provide JH's resources to the group.**

### Item 4: Optimisation Project Update

- NJ provided the group with an update on the progress of the Optimisation Project as had been discussed in the previous meeting. NCIG have commenced stakeholder engagement and an assessment of environmental impacts has been undertaken. NJ presented the findings to the group. The findings show negligible noise and air quality change at residential receivers. NCIG will continue to remain compliant with all relevant air quality assessment criteria and well below the initial approved emissions.
- The merits of the project were discussed. The project will improve efficiency at the terminal providing greater flexibility to customers and further de-link rail transport and ship loading, alleviating congestion on the rail network. NJ reiterated that the project achieves compliance with existing environmental limits and no site disturbance or additional infrastructure is required.
- A summary of the next steps of the project was provided to the group. **Action – notify group of any upcoming milestones as they are reached.**

### Item 5: Water Management

- NJ discussed the recently implemented Level 2 Water Restrictions and what this means for NCIG's water usage. NCIG have implemented the Water Efficiency Management Plan (WEMP). The additional measures being implemented to reduce non-essential water usage were also discussed with the group. An overview of water usage and projects which have improved NCIG's water efficiency over previous years was also provided.
- Victor de Souza (VdS) spoke about the Water Efficiency Management Plan developed in consultation with Hunter Water and the associated action plan to continue improving water efficiency. NCIG is currently investigating the potential use of recycled water on site. A feasibility study is being undertaken to assess whether recycled water can be supplied in line with the site usage requirements. RB questioned other potential sources of water available to NCIG such as bore water. AJ noted that we will be investigating all options.

#### Item 6: Community Update

- Hayley Ardagh (HA) provided the group with an update on the recipients from the latest round of the Community Support Program. A number of recent community activities were also spoken about.
- NCIG will be holding the next Community Open Day in April/May 2020 and details will be provided to the group closer to the date. **Action – send details to CEG prior to the Community Open Day.** NCIG will continue to host Community Site Tours on a frequent basis. The group was encouraged to direct any interested members of the community to our website to book in.
- The group was also advised that the next round of the Community Support Program will open in March and encouraged the group to pass the message on to any organisations that may benefit from funding to apply.

#### Meeting Close

- The next CEG Meeting will occur in approximately 4 months – date and time to be confirmed.
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