

**NCIG Community Engagement Group (CEG) – Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting No: 9**  
**Thursday 8 September 2022 5:00-6:30pm**  
**Location: NCIG Training Room**

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Community Representatives</b>	<b>NCIG Representatives</b>
	Alan Blanch	Nathan Juchau – Manager HSEC
	Alison Rigby	Wade Covey – Environment and Sustainability Lead
	Catherine Blanch	Hayley Ardagh – Environmental Officer
	John Hayes	

**Apologies:** Kenny Barry, Lindsay Clout, Lyn Kilby, Melanie Taggert, Rick Banyard.

#### **Item 1: Welcome and Meeting Minute Review**

- Hayley Ardagh (HA) welcomed attendees to the meeting.
- Nathan Juchau (NJ) commenced the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.
- A representative(s) from Stockton Community Group (SCG) will form part of the CEG moving forward.
- John Hayes (JH) asked if the presentation would be sent to the group with the meeting minutes. NJ confirmed that the presentation can be sent, however a few slides with confidential information would need to be removed.

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

- NJ provided an update on business/operational items:
  - A summary of business/performance highlights from the 2022 financial year was provided. A few of the highlights included: NCIG reached 1,068 days without a Lost Time Injury (LTI), 10% certified green energy was contracted, \$26.5 million spent locally and \$303,000 invested in community initiatives.
  - Business objectives and initiatives for the upcoming year include a number of projects in the areas of Customer Focus, Operational & Engineering Excellence, Financial & Governance, Sustainability and People and Culture.
  - NCIG will continue to undertake preventative maintenance projects in the upcoming year. Some of the major projects planned for the year include finance and maintenance system replacement, slew gear refurbishment, protective coatings on the wharf and machinery, VSD replacement program, conveyor tamping works, conveyor belt replacements and water management projects.
  - The recent electricity market fluctuations were discussed with the group. NCIG has also been impacted by rising cost of electricity.
  - NCIG recently commissioned Wood Mackenzie to provide a coal demand and supply forecast analysis update. The analysis continues to show a strong demand for high quality coal coming from the Pacific Basin/Newcastle market. The analysis forecasts that Australian supply of coal will represent an increasing proportion of a decreasing global coal market.

- The impact of BHP's recent announcement regarding the closing of Mount Arthur by 2030 was discussed with the group. NCIG do not anticipate this announcement will have any short or medium-term impact on our operations or throughput for the terminal. NCIG, as a critical infrastructure provider, will remain in a strong position to continue to support the coal export industry for many years into the future. NCIG will continue to work with BHP as a valued shareholder and customer, to assist them with their operational requirements over the remaining life of their Mt Arthur Mine.
- Given the ongoing growth of the sustainability aspect of NCIG's business, NCIG have decided to make some organisational structure changes to appropriately resource this critical element into the future. NCIG's current Health, Safety, Environment and Community (HSEC) department will split, with the Health and Safety team moving under the current People and Culture team, and the Environment and Community team (which includes Nathan, Wade and Hayley) will move to a newly created Sustainability department. A new role has also been identified to continue to improve relationships with external parties across the business.

### Item 3: Sustainability Strategy Update

- NJ provided an update on NCIG's Sustainability Strategy. As discussed in previous meetings, a framework for the strategy has been developed focusing on Customers, Governance, People & Culture, Plant & Environment and Community & Stakeholders. A quick refresher of NCIG's 2024 Sustainability Targets across each focus area was provided. NCIG's website was also shown to the group, which now details the Sustainability Strategy and hosts a suite of documentation including management approaches for each key focus area.
- NCIG again participated in the GRESB ESG benchmark assessment for infrastructure assets during the period. GRESB collects, validates, scores and benchmarks the information, which helps to provide financial markets with transparency about our ESG processes and performance. With our new strategy, targets and performance, NCIG scored its highest preliminary GRESB result to date which is really pleasing. The final results are expected to be made publicly available on 1 October 2022.
- For the first time, our corporate sustainability risk and performance was also rated by Sustainalytics, a global leader in ESG research data serving institutional investors and corporations. As at 30 June 2022, NCIG achieved a:
  - Rating of Low for ESG risk exposure
  - Rating of Strong for management of relevant ESG issues
  - Ranking of 1st of 360 global companies in the Transportation Industry Group
  - Ranking of 367th of 17,765 global companies in the Sustainalytics database.
- NCIG's FY22 Sustainability Report is nearing finalisation, with publishing planned for October.

### Item 4: Environment and Community Update

- Wade Covey (WC) provided an update on environment and community topics:
  - NCIG has recently created an Energy Working Group to identify and prioritise energy efficiency projects. The first working group meeting was held in August with a number of great ideas/initiatives added to a list for further investigation.
  - The recently implemented Conveyor Run-on Project was also discussed. The project idea came from one of NCIG's Technicians that identified an opportunity to reduce the running time of the conveyors following the completion of a task. This project is expected to provide significant energy savings into the future.

- NCIG has recently introduced its first electric vehicle and charging station on site to trial its suitability to NCIG's needs and work environment. A working group has been established to assess the suitability of the vehicle and plan for the future vehicle needs of the business.
- A number of external audits/inspections have been completed in recent months – NCIG's Three-yearly Independent Environmental Audit, the annual ISO 14001 Surveillance Audit, EPA inspection and Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) inspection. Overall, the feedback has been positive, particularly regarding housekeeping standards and the proactive management controls we have in place to manage key environmental risk areas such as control system alarms, weather forecasting, veneering activities etc.
- A significant rain event occurred in July which caused stormwater to overflow from one of NCIG's holding ponds. NCIG notified the EPA of the event and water quality samples were taken at the time. The water quality samples showed no material impact had occurred. The EPA were satisfied with the actions taken by NCIG in response to the event.
- A community complaint was received via the EPA Environment Line regarding dust impacts at a residence in Stockton on 22 August. NCIG was able to show appropriate controls to manage dust leading up to, and during, the wind event. NCIG's Integrated Dust Management System (IDMS), which was fully operational at the time, was discussed in detail. Veneering was also pre-emptively undertaken in response to the forecast wind and multiple documented inspections were undertaken by the Operations and Environment team throughout the day. NCIG's on-site dust monitoring data indicated that a similar TSP concentration occurred upwind and downwind of NCIG's stockyard throughout the day, indicating that NCIG had a negligible contribution to dust levels during the event.
- NCIG staff have participated in a number of community activities in recent months including the Push-Up Challenge (to raise fund for Lifeline Hunter), the Got Your Back Sista (GYBS) Cook-off and various maintenance fundraising activities. WC mentioned NCIG will be participating in another GYBS Cook-off in October and noted that there is two spare spots available on the team if any community members were interested in joining.
- A draft Community Events Calendar was provided to the community members. The calendar contains upcoming community events that have been supported by NCIG. The calendar will be sent to the group via email once the event details are finalised.
- The Community Support Program is currently open for applications until the end of September. Community members were encouraged to pass the message on to any not-for-profit organisations that may benefit from funding.
- A Community Open Day is planned for early next year. The plan for the day will be discussed at future meetings as it evolves. Community members were encouraged to provide input into ideas for information that should be provided. A number of members encouraged dust management as a topic. John Hayes also suggested a series of fact sheets or information boards to display key information and stories.

#### General Discussion/Meeting Close

- Rick Banyard had sent reading material to be passed on to the group. Copies of the reading material were handed out to the group at the end of the meeting.
  - The next CEG meeting is planned for Thursday 8 December 2022.
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