

# **Meeting Record**

Name	Mt Piper & Wallerawang power stations	Meeting Date	27 November 2013
Meeting / Subject	Community Reference Group	Recorded By	МВ
	Meeting 26	Total Pages	2

Members:	Julie Favell, Jim Whitty, Alex Preema, Helen Riley, Sue Graves, Rob Baigent	
EnergyAustralia	Luke Welfare	General Manager EnergyAustralia NSW;
	Michelle Blackley	Commercial Manager.
Apologies	Boris Hunt, Jamie Giokaris; Ron Bidwell	
Minute Taker	Michelle Blackley	Commercial Manager.

### Meeting

A welcome to country was provided by Helen Riley.

#### 1. Operational Update

Mt Piper - Unit 1 in service.

Mt Piper - Unit 2 just starting an outage with the DCS Upgrade being the major focus.

Wallerawang – Unit 7 in service covering the Mt Piper outage and the cooling towers will be decommissioned in mid to late December.

Wallerawang - Unit 8 in service

The future operation of Wallerawang units is under review at the moment and various operational scenarios are being researched. The GM has presented this same information to staff in briefings, to community representatives and consulted with the unions. The is largely due to a fall in demand on the market and the uncertainty regarding government policy.

The recent media regarding the closure of Wallerawang was misreported.

Site Safety remains an operational highlight with no lost time injuries in over two years across both power stations. We are currently updating our safety policies and procedures with full consultation with our staff. We are also working toward accreditation of our safety systems to AS19001.

#### 2. Rail Unloader

Environmental monitoring is continuing. The land continues under agistment. EnergyAustralia are reviewing the viability of any future operation for the proposed facility.

#### 3. Water Management

Oberon Dam is at 81.03 % and the Western total active storage is 92.7 %.

Water management projects are continuing. Ongoing discussions with the EPA will allow improved usage of the reverse osmosis plant and reduce any discharge into Lake Wallace.

#### 4. Transition to EnergyAustralia

The sale process is now complete and all staff has transferred to EnergyAustralia. We are working with our counterparts in EnergyAustralia to develop communication and process channels to align corporate functions such as our IT systems.

A new community budget has been submitted for approval for 2014 calendar year.

#### 5. Western Community Assets



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All the local community assets have access documentation in place to allow the public to avail themselves of the lakes for recreational activities. This is no longer an issue. Recently the Dept of Industry released a further 5000 trout into Thompsons Creek Dam to commemorate the access agreement available to the fishing fraternity. Luke Welfare, Alex Preema, Jim Whitty and Ray Tang all went fishing prior to the meeting to mark this success.

# 6. Electricity Market Overview

An overview of the current Electricity Market was provided by Luke Welfare to advise the committee of the decrease in demand and the reasons for this phenomenon.

A brief discussion relating to the availability of coal in the local region including the rejection of the Coalpac development application and the withdrawal of the Centennial washery expansion was considered. A question regarding the remaining operational life of Pinedale highlighted that 1 to 2 months of coal was available until the results of their recent development application became known.

Future operation expectations for Mt Piper and Wallerawang was provided.

#### 7. General Business

Information was provided to answer a previous question regarding apprentices. EnergyAustralia currently employ 28 apprentices. The fourth-year apprentices will move onto other jobs in the workforce while a further 4 to 6 new apprenticeships will open up in 2014.

It was also confirmed the 1.4 milliion tonnes of ash was produced per annum across both sites. Further discussion highlighted the work that EnergyAustralia and our contractor Lend Lease were doing to advocate for increased utilisation of ash in building products and road base material.

- Provide information about other EnergyAustralia operational sites for next meeting
- Provide information about any work that EnergyAustralia are doing with alternate electricity generation methods.
- Is EnergyAustralia lobbying Government regarding the carbon tax issue? Yes the Corproate Relations team and our Managing Director has been in contact with the Government on the carbon tax issue.
- Can Nino Di Falco attend the next meeting to explain further on the local water management issues.
- Can a larger sign be provided to indicate an intercom is available for the Yellow Gates on Mt Piper Approach Road.
- General discussion regarding the health effects of Electro Magnetic Fields. No further investigation required.
- Jim Whitty requested EnergyAustralia to assist with showing some alternate sites for the NBN tower proposed for Lidsdale on EnergyAustralia land.
- Sue Graves expressed gratitude from the local Tidy Towns Committees for the funding to attend the Tidy Towns Awards Weekend.
- Alex Preema also expressed thanks for the formal access agreement arrangements at Thompsons Creek Dam.
- Helen Riley also passed some thanks for the funding of LINC

Christmas Greetings were expressed between the members and EnergyAustralia staff.

Meeting closed at 7.00pm.

# Next Meeting

Wednesday 26 February 2014