

# TRUenergy COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

## MEETING NOTES JUNE 2011- ADOPTED 17 AUGUST 2011

MEETING	<b>TALLAWARRA COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP MEETING</b>		MEETING NUMBER 3/2011
HELD AT	TRUENERGY TALLAWARRA SITE, WOLLONGONG		DATE <b>15 JUNE 2011</b>
PROJECT	<b>TALLAWARRA</b>		
ATTENDEES	<div> <div> Doug Prosser Chris Brandis Rita Webb Ken Davis Anthony Savenkov John McIntyre Brendan Blakeley Lucy Greig </div> <div> Lake Illawarra Authority Illawarra Bird Observers Club Dapto Chamber of Commerce Concerned Residents of East Dapto TRUenergy TRUenergy Elton Consulting (facilitator) Elton Consulting (note-taker) </div> </div>		
APOLOGIES	<div> <div> Andrew Knowlson Graham Towers Graham Dowers Warren Smith Marcello Diamante Nam Quach </div> <div> Duck Creek Catchment Community Group Department of Planning TRUenergy TRUenergy TRUenergy TRUenergy </div> </div>		
DISTRIBUTION	To all invitees		

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	ACTION	DATE
1.0	<b>Site Visit – Renae Riviere, Conservation Volunteers Australia / Welcome &amp; Introductions – Brendan Blakeley, Elton Consulting</b>		
	<p><i>The meeting commenced just after 4.30pm on site. Brendan Blakeley welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Andrew Knowlson, Graham Towers, Graham Dowers, Warren Smith, Nam Quach and Marcello Diamante.</i></p> <p><i>The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without amendment. Adoption of the minutes was moved by Doug Prosser.</i></p>		
2.0	<b>Tallawarra Lands Update – Anthony Savenkov, TRUenergy</b>		
	<p>Anthony Savenkov gave an update on the status of the Tallawarra Lands site. He made the following key points:</p> <p><u>Tallawarra Lands</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warren Smith has recently taken over the aspects of the work previously undertaken by Lloyd Townsend. Warren was unable to attend this meeting, but will be introduced to CLG members at a future meeting.</li> <li>Weeds management on the site is continuing with the work of Illawarra District (Noxious) Weeds Authority. Recent target weeds treated include water hyacinth and alligator weed.</li> <li>Special weeds programmes are also being undertaken on various parts of the site (eg targeted lantana removal guided by with the</li> </ul>		

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	<p>Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site visits of Tallawarra Lands for interested parties continue to be provided from time to time. For instance, recent visitors include Phil Straw from Australasian Wade Studies Group, a representative of the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA), and last week the Lake Illawarra Authority (LIA) – regarding early stage planning and coordination of the potential development of the authority's foreshore land and how this relates to the Tallawarra Lands site.</li> </ul> <p><u>Tallawarra Lands Concept Plan Development Application</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TRUenergy has prepared and lodged the Environmental Assessment (EA) report for the Tallawarra Lands Concept Plan development application with the NSW Department of Planning.</li> <li>The EA is undergoing Adequacy Review by the Department, to confirm that it meets the scope requirements prescribed by the Director General, and TRUenergy is currently awaiting feedback from the Department</li> <li>Following Adequacy Review, the EA will be placed on public exhibition.</li> <li>The Department will then make its determination based on consideration of all submissions.</li> </ul> <p><u>TRUenergy projects</u></p> <p>TRUenergy has recently acquired a power station at Marulan following the energy privatisation process in NSW. Since the last meeting of the CLG TRUenergy has been progressing its investigations of the Marulan site. It has reviewed the two planning permits and is considering making minor requests to amend these.</p> <p><b>Questions and comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doug Prosser noted he would be pleased if TRUenergy continues its program of onsite weeding works.</li> <li>Chris Brandis: Where is Marulan power station located?</li> <li>Anthony Savenkov: Approximately 10 kilometres northwest of Marulan.</li> <li>Doug Prosser: Was development of a new power station at Marulan a condition of purchase, as in the case of Tallawarra?</li> <li>Anthony Savenkov: Not to my understanding.</li> <li>Brendan Blakeley noted that the Marulan site is much smaller than Tallawarra (around 30-40 hectares) and incorporates concept approval for a gas fired power station.</li> <li>Anthony Savenkov: TRUenergy is looking at establishing a community engagement programme for the Marulan project which</li> </ul>		
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	may include a Community Liaison forum and pre-consultation with interested local people.		
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Tallawarra B – Anthony Savenkov, TRUenergy</b>		
	<p><b>Questions and comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doug Prosser: The Illawarra Yacht Club recently held a fundraising event at which 'Sailability' (a sailing class for people with disability), which is supported by TRUenergy, received praise from attendees. The LIA is also working closely with TRUenergy to repair a pontoon / crane.</li> <li>Group member: There was a recent article about the number of developments around Lake Illawarra. What response have you had to the article? What sort of response were you hoping for?</li> <li>Doug Prosser: We have not had any response to the article. We hope that the Authority will be valued for its work in the local area. There will be a need for the Authority to assist in the future of the area as the local population increases, in line with a number of anticipated local developments.</li> </ul>		
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Tallawarra A – John McIntyre, TRUenergy</b>		
	<p>John McIntyre gave an update on the status of the Tallawarra A power station. He made the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The power station is running well, although efficiency is sub-optimal due to the station running at low loads due to gas supply constraints.</li> <li>The 'C' inspection of the gas turbine, a complete overhaul, is due to take place later this year. The unit will be out of action for a period of 35 days. The whole turbine will be taken apart and blades will be replaced. Every 24,000 hours or 3 years, maintenance of the gas turbine will be undertaken to maintain the equipment at peak performance.</li> <li>TRUenergy has stringent EPA license requirements. They are not allowed to put any chemicals into the system and lake. Even roof runoff is treated in wetlands rather than entering the lake. Instead, the 'Thermoshot' process involves running heated saltwater through the system. In the last few years through the Thermoshot process TRUenergy has seen varying degrees of fish mortality and is seeking to investigate the reasons for this.</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions and comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doug Prosser: How much wear and tear of the blades is expected?</li> <li>John McIntyre: All the LP Turbine blades will be replaced and a couple from the compressor will also be replaced. The thermal coating on the blades which protects the metal underneath can come off in certain areas. Even where the coating has come off, it has not affected performance of the blades.</li> <li>Brendan Blakeley: How many people will be employed as part of the inspection process?</li> </ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John McIntyre: Approximately 200-250 people will be employed on the site. The site offices and canteen will also be refurbished to provide for the increased workforce.</li> <li>• Doug Prosser: Will the sewage system cope with additional people onsite?</li> <li>• John McIntyre: Yes.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rita Webb: Is there a protective cover over the inlet channel?</li> <li>• John McIntyre: No. We are looking closely at the Thermoshot regime – and have recently reduced the number of dead fish caught in the outlet channel. TRUenergy is seeking to build on these positive results and take this a step further through mitigation measures. TRUenergy is working closely with the EPA on this matter. For instance, undertaking the Thermoshot process less frequently (than the current weekly basis), conducting it at a time of day when there are less fish around (rather than at night as at present), and reviewing the type of device used (eg attempt to scare fish out before the Thermoshot process takes place, as once the water is warmed up they won't return to it).</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doug Prosser: When carrying out the process does water flow through the whole system? Dolphins have been known to create bubble screens.</li> <li>• John McIntyre: One option may be to put air lancers under the water to stir it up.</li> <li>• Brendan Blakeley: Is TRUenergy doing this work inhouse?</li> <li>• John McIntyre: TRUenergy has been liaising with NSW Fisheries and has also undertaken further research. However, there is not a lot of information available on this issue. We are investigating air lancers and other things, and have a new fish return line in, to ensure fish are not damaged on the way out.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doug Prosser: Have you noticed any difference in the rate of marine growth? The water quality of the lake is changing due to the much greater exchange of lake water. However we have not been going for long enough yet to know if the additional salinity is increasing marine growth.</li> <li>• John McIntyre: TRUenergy undertakes monitoring of the lake, such as monitoring of water temperature 24 hrs per day and counting of sea grasses.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLG member: Would marine growth also be affected by nutrient inflows? As development has increased on the Central Coast, seagrass grew like crazy due to increased nutrient levels.</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doug Prosser: Yes, higher nutrient levels cause more seagrass to grow. However, we have to obtain a permit from NSW Fisheries for any works that may impact on growth of seagrass, and requests for permits are often refused.</li> <li>Brendan Blakeley invited John McIntyre to keep the CLG updated on further research undertaken by TRUenergy.</li> </ul>		
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Other matters</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were no other matters raised.</li> </ul>		
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Close and next meeting</b>		
	<p><i>The meeting was closed just before 5.30pm.</i></p> <p><i>Next meeting: 4.30pm 17 August 2011, onsite.</i></p> <p><i>Brendan Blakeley thanked all members of the CLG for their input.</i></p>		
<p>If you have any questions in relation to these minutes please contact Brendan Blakeley at Elton Consulting. Tel: 02 9387 2600 Fax: 02 9387 2557 Email: <a href="mailto:brendan@elton.com.au">brendan@elton.com.au</a></p>			