

## **Meeting Record**

Name	Mt Piper & Wallerawang power 26 Feb 2014		26 February 2014
Meeting / Subject	Community Reference Group	Recorded By	МВ
	Meeting 27	Total Pages	2

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

### Meeting

### 1. Operational Update

Mt Piper - Unit 1 & 2 in service with DCS commissioning continuing on Unit 2. Wallerawang – Unit 7 no longer in service and the temporary cooling towers have been decommissioned. Wallerawang – Unit 8 in service until the end of March and from then on three month recall. As previously presented this is largely due to a fall in demand on the market.

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 ISO 18001.

### 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. This could be options from both inside and outside the local region.

Ms Favell wished to state her objection to the extension of operations for both the Coalpac site and the Pinedale mine. She wished to see an improved performance on the rehabilitation of the Pinedale site which is and EnergyAustralia site. Mr Welfare stated he believed there had been some good rehabilitation work completed at Pinedale and would look into the possibility of showing Ms Favell the area.

Ms Favell asked if Pinedale had any reports on the Bathurst Copperwing Butterfly. Mr Welfare and Mr Difalco were unaware of any reports or their availability.

### 3. Water Management

Oberon Dam is at 70.22 % and the Western total active storage is 88.2 %.

Water management projects at Wallerawang would not be continued.

A red alert for Blue Green algae at Lake Wallace was noted. This was related to the low local rainfall during the summer period. The changes to EnergyAustralia NSW Environment Protection licence was discussed including the monitoring requirements and the limits that were put in place. A copy of the licence can be obtained from the EPA website under Wallerawang Power Station.

A question was raised regarding Centennial's waste water discharge into the Lake Wallace as Ms Favell was concerned by the impacts of this discharge particularly when Wallerawang ceased to operate. She advised that LEG would continue to monitor this situation. Mr Difalco advised that the discharge appeared to have a high conductivity that may have an impact on the Lake and that the EPA was aware of the situation.

It was noted that a brine concentrator outage was currently underway and would continue for a further 3 weeks.



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### 4. Transition to EnergyAustralia

EnergyAustralia's announcement regarding the reduced operation of Wallerawang was discussed. Concerns were raised generally about the staff and contractors. The staff consultation process was explained and the use of staff to devolve operational routines and dismantle plant with the potential of salvaging high value materials was put by Mr Welfare.

It was noted that several contractors had already begun to wind down their operations and staffing levels.

The disuse of the Kerosene Vale Ash Dam and Sawyers Swamp Creek Ash Dam was highlighted as an issue. Would the dams be capped? Mr Welfare explained that the areas would be capped and any capital works liability across the Wallerawang site over a limit would be the responsibility of the State as per conditions of the sale agreement. Ms Favell asked if there was a time limit or date put on this liability. Mr Welfare did not know of a limit but would investigate and advise.

It was suspected that a development application may be required to close the operations of Kerosene Vale and Sawyers Swamp Creek Dam.

The term of three month standby was further explained in terms of the requirement to return unit 8 to full operation.

### 5. Other Assets of EnergyAustralia

A brief description of the other generation and gas storage sites was provided to the forum in response to a request from Meeting 26.

### 6. General Business

Coal Seam Gas operations were discussed in light of EnergyAustralia's interest in the Narrabri project.

It was noted that Mr Richard McIndoe, Managing Director of EnergyAustralia had provided his notice and a replacement is being sourced at the moment.

A question was asked about EnergyAustralia's appetite to sell buffer land and the likelihood of the Wallerawang Power Station site proper being sold. Mr Welfare suggested that EnergyAustralia may consider the sale of lease of buffer zone land but felt it was highly unlikely that he station site itself would be sold.

It was noted that the Unit 7 cooling towers may be demolished to minimise operational risk and costs in the future.

Ms Favell requested to know the current Energy Minister name. Ms Favell further advised that there will be a NSW Cabinet meeting in Lithgow on 10 March 2014. For the forum member's information please find attached a profile of the Hon. Anthony Roberts MA (Comms) MP. The Hon. Mr Roberts is the current Minister for Resources and Energy and Special Minister of State since 9.12.13.

Meeting closed at 6.40pm.

#### Next Meeting

Wednesday 28 May 2014 at 5 pm, venue to be advised.