

TRUenergy COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

MEETING NOTES APRIL 2010 – ADOPTED MAY 2010

MEETING	TALLAWARRA COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP MEETING	MEETING NUMBER	2/2010
HELD AT	TRUENERGY TALLAWARRA SITE, WOLLONGONG	DATE	21 APRIL 2010
PROJECT	TALLAWARRA		
ATTENDEES	<div> <div> Doug Prosser Cheryl Lappin Chris Brandis Rita Webb Sharralyn Robinson John McIntyre Anthony Savenkov Lloyd Townsend Graham Dowers Roger Swinborne Melanie Thomson Brendan Blakeley Nicole Eastaway </div> <div> Lake Illawarra Authority Shellharbour Council Illawarra Bird Observers Club Dapto Chamber of Commerce Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council TRUenergy TRUenergy TRUenergy TRUenergy Urbis Biosis Elton Consulting (Facilitator) Elton Consulting (Note-take) </div> </div>		
APOLOGIES	<div> Graham Towers Rhonda Warner Andrew Knowlson </div> <div> Department of Planning </div>		
DISTRIBUTION	To all invitees		

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	ACTION	DATE
1.0	Welcome & Introductions – Brendan Blakeley, Elton Consulting		
	<p><i>The meeting commenced at 4.30pm. Brendan Blakeley welcomed all to the meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Apologies were received from Graham Towers, Rhonda Warner and Andrew Knowlson.</i></p> <p><i>The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.</i></p>		
2.0	Power Station Works Update – John McIntyre, TRUenergy		
	<p>John McIntyre made the following key points:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scheduled Tallawarra B power station inspection took place recently, which involved maintenance to the gas turbine and control system. The outage lasted 15 days, during which time 120 people were working on site. It took two months to plan the works to be undertaken while the station was offline. It was a successful operation. The power station has been running well since. TRUenergy places great importance on workplace safety with strict induction procedures and policies on alcohol and drug use. Safety adherence helped ensure that there were no major safety incidents during the maintenance. It is anticipated there will likely be no need for another major scheduled outage for 12 months. In the period since the last Community Liaison Group meeting, there have been no 		

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	environmental incidents arising from the station's operation.		
3.0	Site Maintenance Update – Lloyd Townsend, TRUenergy		
	<p>Lloyd Townsend made the following key points:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still have some feral pigs on site. One was caught last week. TRUenergy is working with Cumberland Livestock Heath and Pest Authority to deal with the issue. • IVS continue to mow the site. • Clean Up Australia Day was held recently on site, with participation from the local Scout group, TRUenergy employees and some members of the public. Council also organised a truck on the same day to collect the rubbish. <p>CLG member: The Lake Illawarra Authority appreciates the work carried out on that day by TRUenergy and other participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area around the inlet canal has been fenced. In addition, ladders are currently being installed down the side of the canal walls and safety access lines strung across the canal. These measures will ensure people can get out in case someone did fall in. <p>CLG member: Consider installing lifesaving buoys.</p> <p>Lloyd Townsend: TRUenergy has placed a bin down in the fishing area to assist in keeping the area clean.</p>		
4.0	Tallawarra Stage B – Graham Dowers, TRUenergy		
	<p>Graham Dowers made the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft conditions have been received from the Department of Planning for Stage B permit. They are more prescriptive than for Stage A, but generally things TRUenergy would require or do anyway, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hazards and safety before, during and after construction – Compliance plans – Machine performance guarantee in relation to emissions – Noise, cooling water dosing • TRUenergy's submissions report has been uploaded to the Department of Planning's Major Project website • Another matter to be resolved relates to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) position on specifically the proximity of the plumes from Tallawarra B with respect to airport flight paths. TRUenergy has made formal applications to CASA seeking discussion on solutions, and CASA are reviewing the applications, but little feedback has been received in four months. • Next steps for Stage B: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Finalisation of the draft conditions, including CASA outcomes – Obtaining Minister's final approval – Electricity market review – Moving forward with gas supply and transport matters – Pursuing a tender process later in the year, depending on NSW privatisation – a critical factor for project. <p>Comments/questions from CLG members:</p>		

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	<p>CLG member: Shellharbour Council is undertaking a transport management plan with consultants liaising with CASA. It is a capacity study for the airport and future management options, which also looks at the possible impact of the plume.</p> <p>Graham Dowers: The plume's impact on flight paths can be managed, but we need dialogue to determine what is possible. If Shellharbour Council could assist us in getting feedback from CASA that would be appreciated.</p> <p>CLG member: Are the authorities accepting a baseline (satisfactory) performance for Stage B, or setting more targets?</p> <p>Graham Dowers: Targets have been agreed to. We have had discussions with DECCW around targets in relation to residential development near the power station. These are stringent but achievable.</p> <p>CLG member: How will the cooling water dosing operate in Stage B?</p> <p>Graham Dowers: In Stage B, we would have a cooling tower which draws water out of the inlet canal. Some of this water is evaporated with only a small amount going back into the canal and the lake. The quantity of water taken is far smaller than Stage A. We have satisfied DoP through analysis in the Environmental Assessment that it will only be at trace level. We have to measure the concentration of biocide in the water returning to the lake to ensure it doesn't exceed required levels. We are confident it will have little or no impact on the lake while still allowing us to keep the towers clean and run efficiently.</p> <p>CLG member: What are the options for antifouling in the tower? I have heard that this can also be done using a small electrical charge.</p> <p>Graham Dowers: I am not aware of that technology in use in power stations. We have to use some antifouling compound. Our preference is to use more environmentally friendly products, which have less of an impact on the lake water. The products we are considering have been tested and proven in other countries but would need to be registered through APVA.</p>		
5.0	Tallawarra Power Station Stage B – Anthony Savenkov, TRUenergy		
	<p>Anthony Savenkov made the following key points:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new Wollongong Local Environmental Plan has now been gazetted. Tallawarra Lands is part of that Plan. This provides the project more certainty to advance. As part of our community consultation program for the Concept Plan development application stage, we are planning a pre-exhibition community information and feedback session. Once we have more details we will let you know. <p>Brendan Blakeley:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community information session may be in a different venue this time, as Ribbonwood Community Centre is being renovated. We welcome your views on an appropriate venue. Currently we are looking at Koonawarra Community Centre in Fowlers Rd, Koonawarra. Our team of experts are working on respective parts of the Development Application, including some who are here today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Melanie Thomson, Biosis – Aboriginal heritage – Roger Swinborne, Urbis – Ecologically Sustainable Development. 		

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	<p><i>Presentation by Melanie Thomson, Biosis on Aboriginal heritage</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biosis is working on the historical and Aboriginal cultural heritage components of the assessment. We have already undertaken a review of the existing data, and plan to commence archaeological testing works soon. The assessment will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – an overview of previous work; – consideration of previous consultation with Aboriginal groups in Illawarra region, and conduct further consultation; – determining the extent of areas of cultural resources within the study area; – determining areas of high conservation value through consultation; & – consider potential strategies future management of the site. A key aspect of the assessment is consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders currently active in the Illawarra region, to build upon the Aboriginal stakeholder consultation undertaken in the previous work. <p>Melanie displayed a map indicatively showing the areas on the site of Aboriginal cultural and archaeological significance.</p> <p><u>Comments/questions from CLG members:</u></p> <p>CLG member: Are the archaeological sites listed on the AIMs register?</p> <p>Melanie Thomson: Yes.</p> <p>CLG member: Will you have reps from aboriginal groups there at the time (of excavation)?</p> <p>Melanie Thomson: Yes.</p> <p>CLG member: Will you take artefacts off site?</p> <p>Melanie Thomson: Yes, for analysis we take them off site.</p> <p>CLG member: Do you still require approval from DECCW to destroy artefacts?</p> <p>Melanie Thomson: At DA stage, it would be reviewed by DECCW.</p> <p>CLG member: If there was a really serious archaeological discovery, what would happen?</p> <p>CLG member: Work stops until we investigate what has been found. If it's a potential burial site, police are called, we get forensics in to determine if it is human or not. If it is, discussion with the groups in the area in relation to a reburial.</p> <p>Melanie Thomson: Consultation guidelines basically reflect those developed by DECCW.</p> <p><i>Presentation by Roger Swinbourne, Urbis, on ecology and sustainability</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urbis engaged to look at the environmental sustainability component of DGRs, which list 15 different items to be assessed Concept approval is the first stage of many approvals. It sets the long-term framework, embeds the vision and elements from stakeholders and local strategic documents <i>Approach</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>NOT</u> to use site specific technologies too early in the process 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning-led approach, to set a sound framework - Consider embedding sustainability principles in every aspect, at every stage - Build on previous vision and stakeholder inputs – CLG and other work/inputs - Consider how to potentially exceed the requirements of the DoP, and more holistically address environmental sustainability through the Tallawarra Lands project. • <i>Key drivers</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DGRs - Past Tallawarra Lands documents - TRUenergy's sustainability approach – review, incorporate - Outcomes of past consultation with community - Wollongong Council documents/policies • <i>Overview of frameworks</i> (taking learnings from these to develop framework that is the best for Tallawarra Lands) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Australian GBCA Green Star – liveability, economic prosperity, place-making - VicUrban Sustainability - NSW Landcom Precinx Tool –currently developing, really good ideas - USA LEED 2009 – neighbourhood development - UDIA EnviroDevelopment tool – industry rating tool • <i>Current activities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Considering frameworks - Developing inputs and gap analysis - Interviews and discussions with project team and CLG - Identification of stretch areas for sustainability - Embed sustainability principles across EA documentation • <i>Next steps</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dialogue with the community through the Community Information & Feedback session - Draft framework and some of the initial concepts coming out of that. <p><u>Questions/comments from CLG members:</u></p> <p>CLG member: Ecologically sustainable development would include maintaining water quality through the development phase to ensure sustainability of the lake?</p> <p>Roger Swinbourne: Yes, that is why we are addressing sustainability as a broader agenda, embedding it in the long term future of the site to ensure a sound approach.</p> <p>Brendan Blakeley: When you think about sustainable development, what does that mean to you? How would you like to see it embodied in a place like Tallawarra, if it is developed?</p> <p>CLG member: Sustain it to improve it.</p> <p>Roger Swinbourne: Managing issues such as feral pigs, cattle and noxious weeds can</p>		
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	<p>help to improve an area – without that it starts to deteriorate as an ecosystem and can impact on the lake.</p> <p>CLG member: When the site is developed, it has to be nice looking with the houses not close to each other. It has a nice setting, on a hill with beautiful views. Make it look good and make people want to live there. And make it look good for the people who will be looking at it so we don't see a sea of rooftops.</p> <p>CLG member: Protection and preservation of country, including public access to the site. Affordable housing helps create sustainability for families. Sustaining health and well-being by creating spaces that are useable, readily accessible and that allow people to interact with the environment in a safe and protected way.</p> <p>CLG member: What happens on this site should not be more detrimental to long term environmental outcomes than what is on the site now. Water quality should be better. Energy needed to run houses should be produced onsite or in an environmentally sensitive way.</p> <p>CLG member: Up to 100,000 people will be on the edge of the lake within 20 to 40 years as a result of developments at Kembla Grange, West Dapto, Marshall, Calderwood, and Tallawarra. Look at the big picture - these people will need spaces and amenities.</p> <p>CLG member: We need to consider the cumulative impact of development particularly on water quality in the Lake at an early stage. For this development and all the other planned developments within the area.</p> <p>Anthony Savenkov: We hope to have a water quality consultant specifically at a future meeting to talk through these issues with you.</p> <p>Graham Dowers: Sediment basins are helping to control the run-off.</p>		
6.0	Discussion and Next Steps		
	<p>CLG member: I would like dialogue with TRUenergy regarding Aboriginal employment opportunities. I encourage TRUenergy to consider including an aboriginal employment strategy as part of the tendering process for works on the site. Given that parts of the site are culturally significant I would like to see signage, artwork, and street names to give recognition to that. We could work together to look at opportunities to use area as an educational tool.</p> <p>Additional points raised by Graham Dowers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas supply – we are in the very early stages of exploring the potential for an alternative gas source in addition to the current supply from the Eastern Gas Pipeline. This would potentially involve tapping into the Moomba pipeline. <p>CLG member: Would it replicate the existing EGP?</p> <p>Graham Dowers: It would supplement it with gas from Moomba.</p> <p>CLH member: Is it more economical?</p> <p>Graham: It could be as it would give us two supply points. This would enhance reliability of supply.</p> <p>CLG member: Is the combustion of the two different gases similar?</p> <p>Graham Dowers: Yes. Australia works to a gas specification and all gas in our pipelines must meet these requirements.</p>		

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7.0	Close and next meeting		
	The meeting was closed at 6.30pm. Next meeting: 4.30pm Wednesday 16 June 2010, on site. NB: It is now proposed to hold an Additional CLG meeting on 26 May 2010.		
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: brendan@elton.com.au			