

Meeting No. 155
Tuesday 4 April 2023
9.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

Inside Industry, BlueScope

Minutes
Attendees

Attendees	
<p>Community members Ron Hales Mark Peterlin Peter Maywald Jess Whittaker</p> <p>Business Representatives Natasha Porteous – Blue Scope Rosa Thomson – AIE/Squadron Energy Alex Lovell – AIE/Squadron Energy</p> <p>University of Wollongong Andy Davis Chantel Carr</p> <p>NSW Ports representatives Bryan Beudeker</p> <p>Port Authority of NSW None present</p> <p>NSW EPA Greg Newman Craig Patterson</p> <p>Wollongong City Council None present</p> <p>Department of Agriculture None present</p>	<p>Guest Presenters – Oceanex Energy Emily Scivetti Sarah Guilfoyle</p> <p>Apologies Peter Munro – NSW Ports Phillip Laird – Community member Wayne Vorley – PKCT Michael Curley – PKCT Sharad Bhasin – Port Authority of NSW Paul Bollen – Morgan Cement Lana Howell – NSW Ports Kate Flint – Pacific National Sara Starr - AAT Lorrie Zammit - Bluescope Karl Batshon – Wollongong City Council Nigel Harpley – IXOM Brian Kiely – PK Gateway</p> <p>Chairperson & Minutes Chris Haley – Chairperson Natalie Murphy – Minute Taker</p>

1. Introduction & Apologies:

- 1.1 Acknowledgment of the Dharawal people – Chris Haley
- 1.2 Welcome attendees and guest presenters– Chris Haley

2. Guest Presenters – Emily Scivetti & Sarah Guilfoyle– Oceanex Energy - Appendix A

- Andy Evans and Peter Sgardelis are the owners of Oceanex, as well as Star of the South offshore wind project in Victoria.
- The chocolates on the table have a QR code which will take you to the website for the Novocastrian offshore windfarm website and timeline. Local businesses are encouraged to register as suppliers.
- Each offshore windfarm project would power 1 million homes and has a 30-year operational life.
- NSW is the only state suitable for the use of floating foundation technology. There is an enormous opportunity for local manufacturing of steel components.
- The ultimate technology (15-20MW wind turbine generators or WTGs) will be ready for construction around 2028.
- The assets or WTGs will be located in Commonwealth waters more and will be assembled quayside at port. An offshore wind industry will require thousands of workers.
- WTGs will be towed by 2 or 3 tugs approx. 30 kms off the coast.

Queries relating to:	Responses/Updates
Question: It seems hard to believe that the windfarms will float on the East Coast?	Metoccean engineers have modelled the East Coast of Australia are aware of the conditions. Equinor has 50 years legacy of offshore floating platforms in the North Sea. Each floating offshore wind turbine substructure weighs around 4000 tonnes of steel.
Question: It was said on the news that Wollongong needs to defend itself. There is a meeting today at the Novotel to discuss defence. Can there be a co-existence within the port with defence and windfarms?	We believe co-existence is achievable. We would need to deconflict the movement in the harbour which requires planning. Defence is a key stakeholder and we have started work already.
Question: Is there sufficient space in and around the Harbour?	We are in very early development phase and part of this is a detailed assessment of Port Kembla. We are very encouraged to see NSW Ports taking a lead with a digitilisation plan. We continue to work with port owners on the development of future offshore wind precincts.
Question: Are you the only players?	No, there are more and more developers emerging in offshore wind. We have been working with key stakeholders since 2020. Ultimately, feasibility licence applications will be assessed on merit. It would be difficult for many developers to compete with Oceanex and Equinor using floating foundation technology.

3. Minutes of Meeting and Actions

- 3.1 Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting held 7 February 2023
- 3.2 Business arising from Minutes 7 February 2023

ACTIONS	TO RESPOND
Report back on Greenhouse Park remédiation plan	Karl Batshon
Report on Land Use Study from Dpt Planning	Peter Munro
Jess to send photos to Bryan re : Masters Rd off-ramp (grain on road)	Bryan Beudeker
NSW Ports to présent on Community consultation process and findings	Peter Munro

Letter of support to WCC Mariner Mémorial	Chris Haley
Andy Davis to invite Katarina Peters to PKHEG meetings.	Andy Davis

4. Harbour related environment matters

4.1 Pollution from MM on Gloucester Blvd – Craig Patterson – APPENDIX B

Queries relating to:	Responses/ Update
Question: There was contamination of wells on the western side of Gloucester Blvd?	Yes 2 wells found LNAPL, hydrocarbons, and tetrachloroethylene (TCE).
Question: Are there other wells?	Yes, there is a network of around 20 wells across the site and on both sides of Gloucester Blvd.
Question: Is there old copper plumes contributing to the contamination?	The source of the contamination is still being investigated. The direction of groundwater flow on PKC's site may not flow in the direction of MM's site based on topography and past remediation works conducted on PKC's premises.
Question: What are the dimensions and depth of the wells?	The monitoring wells are about 100 mm in diameter. They vary in depth to look at the different layers within the soil profile.
Question: How might the site be remediated?	Depends on the nature of extent of the contamination. Limited extraction has commenced from some onsite wells. The next steps in the monitoring and investigation process will consider remediation options . A remedial action plan will need to be prepared by MM.
Question: I am surprised contamination hasn't moved from the wells western side to MM beachside.	It depends on the mobility of the contamination and the material that it is moving through. Consultants have noted it is slow moving material. .
Question: Everyone involved is spending a lot of money on this. There must be a risk?	It is a standard practice in regulating and investigating contamination.
Question: Did MM notify in a timely manner?	Yes. MM notified under the CLM Act once there was sufficient monitoring information.
Question: I am concerned the tools are not enough	There are two separate acts. That is the Protection of the Environment Operations Act and the Contaminated Land Management Act (CLM Act). Both have a series of tools / means to regulate the contamination. Once the declaration has been finalised, the EPA will decide on the appropriate regulatory pathway.
Comment: There is a tip at the top of the site where there are old barrels that were dumped years ago when there were no environmental procedures for cleaning.	Noted. MM have been at that site for over 100 years.
Comment: For the record there is a real problem with legacy pollution in our community. We have been fighting it for over 30 years.	Noted.
Question: Was there something in particular that brought this to the EPA's attention?	This was self-reported by MM as part of their own due diligence ground water monitoring program.
Question: Why is this being brought to our attention by the media and not as information at these meetings? We were alerted by the media.	Thanks for the feedback. The contamination was initially identified onsite. On site contamination is routinely managed through the licence as it was in this case. All issued notices are listed on the EPA public register and are freely available. The EPA required MM to undertake a water quality monitoring program within the stormwater drain to assess

	any potential offsite risk while investigations were being progressed. EPA also required MM to routinely update their web site with information on the investigation to ensure that the community had access to timely and meaningful information. Routine updates are listed. When contamination was recently identified off site, MM notified EPA as required under section 60 of the CLM Act. Following confirmation of monitoring results, the company and other stakeholders were notified of EPA's proposal to declare the site under the CLM Act. Again, this is routine practice under this legislation. MM has advised the EPA that MM are happy to attend the next meeting if invited to discuss the investigations.
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5. Round Table Reports

4.1 NSW Ports – Peter Munro /Bryan Beudeker

- Peter Munro (NSW Ports Head of Corporate Affairs) emailed all PKHEG members last month advising that applications opened for this year's community grants program. One-off grants of up to \$25,000 each are on offer for community groups and initiatives around NSW Ports' sites – such as Port Kembla. Applications close 16 April. To apply or for more information, go to www.nswports.com.au/grants
- In March, NSW Ports celebrated the opening of a new space for young people in the Illawarra, to encourage those from multicultural or culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to come together for social and educational activities. The new youth space was funded by NSW Ports' 2022 community grant to the Multicultural Communities Council of Illawarra
- Peter Munro emailed all PKHEG members in March with details of NSW Ports' concept plans for a proposed offshore wind facility in Port Kembla's Outer Harbour – which will provide a staging, assembly and launching space for future offshore wind farms
- NSW Ports promoted its proposed facility at the Illawarra Clean Energy Expo at Parliament House, in Canberra, in late March, alongside parliamentarians and renewable energy proponents
- As published recently on the NSW Ports' website, 3.4 million tonnes of grain were exported from Port Kembla to international markets in the past financial year, most of it arriving at the port via rail.
- In March, GrainCorp exported its millionth tonne of grain through the port since October 2022
- Port Kembla is the largest grain export port in NSW.
- The strong result in the past financial year was despite the impact of extreme weather events, including the closure of the Moss Vale-Unanderra rail line for seven months for repairs
- NSW Ports continues to advocate for enhanced rail resilience to and from Port Kembla – including the proposed Maldon-Dombarton dual freight-passenger line.

Queries relating to:	Responses/ Update
Jess noted there is grain on the offroad on Masters Rd near Figtree where the trucks increase speed and there are a lot of dead cockatoo's. Nat and Jess have both tried to make contact with GrainCorp but have had no success. Jess to send pictures to Bryan.	Bryan will review photos and make contact with GrainCorp.
Questions: Has work started on carbon offsets?	Work is progressing but physical work has not started as yet. Working on a commercial agreement.
Comment: With the change in government could we enquire to see if there is a change of attitude towards Maldon-Dombarton rail line.	Something we are all advocating. It is too early for the new Premier as yet. NSW Ports will provide an update when there is more information.

4.2 AIE / Squadron Energy

- Pipeline is going in and is progressing well. Expected to be finished in the fourth quarter.
- The dredging spread has not been active since February. There was found to be a problem with the inner harbour wall. Rectification works are scheduled to commenced in May at B101.
- Emplacement cell construction activities are scheduled to recommence in August 2023.

Queries relating to:	Responses/ Update
Question: Jemena had two frac out incidents at beginning of March?	Yes, Jemena had two drill mud frac out incidents in March. Both were self-report to the EPA in a timely manner via the Pollution Hotline and the EPA inspected the clean-up efforts on each day these incidents occurred, with no additional recommendations and/or additional action hand down from the EPA. The works being undertaken was HDD which stands for Horizontal Directional Drilling.

4.3 UoW

- 3 marine staff retired as a direct result of COVID19. Andy was one of those staff.
- UoW has welcomed new staff member Katarina Peters who is a whale researcher. Andy to pass on Oceanex details to Katarina to add as a local supplier. Andy to invite Katarina to PKHEG meetings.

4.4 Community Members

- Peter Maywald noted Community Forum 7 is following closely the nuclear-powered submarines. All requests for more information or a response to correspondence has so far not been returned.

6. General Business

6.1 Support for Motion

- Peter Maywald provided further information to support a motion by Councillor Janice Kershaw relating to the erecting of a memorial structure for seamen. It was agreed to support the motion with the Chairman writing a letter of support to Wollongong City Council.

7. Next Meeting:

DATE: 6 June 2023
VENUE: Inside Industry, BlueScope
TIME: 9am to 11am