



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science

National Radioactive Waste Management Facility

Barndioota Consultative Committee

Meeting Notes

Tuesday 27th June 2017

Agenda

<i>Final Agenda</i>		
Item	Topic	Lead
1	Welcome to country	Aaron Stuart
2	Housekeeping	Paul Thomas
3	Approval of the draft notes of the Fourth BCC Meeting	Paul Thomas
4	Project update	Angus Cole (DIIS – NRWFM Project Team)
5	Defining the Community	Peta Ashworth (University of Queensland)
Lunch Break		
6	Measuring Community Sentiment	David Bruce (ORIMA Research)
7	Telecommunications	Jaron Cooper (Telstra)
8	LIDAR and Radiation Survey	David Simon (Geoscience Australia)
9	Other items	Paul Thomas
Meeting Close		

Attendees:

Paul Thomas (Convener)	Ronald Daniel	John Hennessy
Greg Flint (Deputy Convener)	Aaron Stuart	David Michael
Susan Andersson	Ashley Haywood	Jon Gill
Dianne Ashton	Janice McInnis	Denise Carpenter
Cecilia Woolford	Philip Fels	Ashley Haywood
John Rowe	Steven Taylor	Rachel Vella

Apologies

Michael Anderson	Julia Henderson	David Michael
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Other Attendees:

Name	Organisation
Bruce McCleary	DIIS: NRWFM Project Team – General Manager
Angus Cole	DIIS: NRWFM Project Team – Manager of Community Consultation Team

Alex Baxter	DIIS: NRWMF Project Team - Community Consultation Team
Rebecca Mouthaan	DIIS: NRWMF Project Team - Community Consultation Team
Jessica Chen	DIIS: NRWMF Project Team - Community Consultation Team
Peta Ashworth	University of Queensland
David Bruce	Associate Partner, ORIMA Research
Jaron Cooper	Telstra Networks
Vital D'Unienville	Telstra Networks
David Simon	Geoscience Australia

Action Items

Item	Status
1. The NRWMF Project Team will publish the finalised meeting notes on the NRWMF Project website.	
2. The NRWMF Project Team will arrange for a guest speaker to present to the BCC on a perspective opposed to the NRWMF Project.	
3. BCC members will consider the outcomes of the conversatiuon about the definition of the Bardioota community, and re-visit the issue at a future meeting.	
4. The NRWMF Project Team will provide the maps via email that were used to facilitate discussion during the meeting.	
5. Prof Peta Ashworth will compiule a summary of the discussion inder Agenda Item 5, and a proposal on the definition of 'community'. She will present this at the October BCC meeting.	
6. The NRWMF Project Team will pass on the contact details of the BCC members nominated to the Telecommunications Working Group to Mark Bolton (Telstra).	
7. The Telecommunications Working Group will liaise with Telstra on the development of a project proposal and report back to the BCC on progress.	
8. The BCC is to decide on the date of the Sixth BCC meeting out of session	

Meeting opened 10:30am

Welcome to Country

- Aaron Stuart gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

Housekeeping

Introduction of Bruce McCleary

Mr McCleary was introduced as the new General Manager of the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility Project Team (NRWMF Project Team).

- He has replaced Michael Sheldrick and reports to Bruce Wilson.
- Bruce comes from six and a half years working in the resource industry in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Prior to that he worked for 10 years in the Northern Territory in various industry positions, and also in the Royal Australian Air Force.
- Mr McCleary congratulated the Chair, Mr Paul Thomas, on becoming a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours this year. All BCC members also extended their congratulations.

Kimba Ballot

Mr McCleary provided an update on the results of the recent Kimba ballot.

Summary

- A community ballot was undertaken by the Australian Electoral Commission at the request of the Kimba Council. It asked if individuals supported Kimba progressing to Phase 2 of the site selection process.
- With voter turnout at 88 per cent of the electoral roll, 57.4 per cent showed support, and 42.6 per cent opposition.

Discussion

- A BCC member asked why Barndioota could not conduct a ballot now to make a final decision on siting the Facility. Phase 2 of the NRWMF Project involves detailed technical site assessment, indigenous heritage assessments, and extensive two-way consultation with the community on specific aspects of the NRWMF Project. This is intended to ensure the community can make an informed final decision at the end of Phase 2. The BCC will advise on the design of this final community sentiment measurement process.
- BCC members sought clarification on NRWMF Project activities in Kimba compared to those in Barndioota. Barndioota is ahead of Kimba in the site selection process. Kimba is undergoing the same process, with the same information made available and commitments made, as that of Barndioota before it entered Phase 2 of the site selection process in March 2016.

Apologies

The Chair noted three Barndioota Consultative Committee (BCC) member apologies, as listed in the Final Agenda.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of the draft notes of the Fourth BCC Meeting

The Chair opened the room to discussion of the draft notes of the Fourth BCC Meeting, first distributed on 12 May 2017. No comments were made, however Phillip Fels will be noted as an apology. The BCC approved the notes.

Action Item 1: The NRWMF Project Team will publish the finalised meeting notes on the NRWMF Project website.

Agenda Item 4: Project Update

Angus Cole (NRWMF Project Team) provided a NRWMF Project update.

Summary

- Nominations for the Economic Working Group closed on 19 June 2017. Eight nominations were received, three of which were BCC members, and one was nominated by a BCC member. The Department will now review the nominations and advise the Minister.
- On Saturday 3 June 2017, the second meeting of the Wallerberdina Station Heritage Working Group (WS-HWG) was held in Hawker. The meeting included discussions on the tender process, and the requirements of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment. The next meeting is scheduled to be held once tenders have been received.

Discussion

- A BCC member questioned the process being followed with respect to community consultation, specifically that it was ongoing before technical and heritage assessments have been finalised. Another BCC member noted their experience around the community - there is a lot of interest in the NRWMF Project and many have been positive about the current consultation process. They have received feedback that community members are gaining an understanding of what the NRWMF Project involves and do not want to vote without knowing the full details. Other BCC members reiterated the role of the BCC to facilitate communication between the NRWMF Project and the Barndioota community, to learn about the NRWMF Project, to pass it on to the community and to provide advice to the Department.
- A BCC member asked why the BCC have not had the opportunity to provide input on the BCC Work Agenda. Other BCC members noted that this opportunity was provided and the Work Agenda agreed on by the BCC at the third BCC meeting.
- BCC members requested guest speakers to present to the BCC from an opposing view of the NRWMF Project. The NRWMF Project Team noted the BCC Work Plan has scheduled for experts from specific fields to provide factual independent information, and BCC members are invited to suggest any additional guest speakers through the Chair. The NRWMF Project Team agreed to arrange for a guest speaker to present an opposition perspective to the BCC.

Action Item 2: The NRWMF Project Team will arrange for a guest speaker to present to the BCC on a perspective opposed to the NRWMF Project.

- BCC members noted that previous engagement with the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) had been very useful. The NRWMF Project Team noted that it was making arrangements to get an ARPANSA representative to present to the BCC.

The Chair noted that Michelle Pereira would shortly leave the Department, and advised members to contact Alex Baxter in the first instance, until a replacement is appointed. BCC members asked that the meeting notes record their thanks and appreciation for Michelle's work with committee members.

Agenda Item 5: Defining Community

Peta Ashworth (University of Queensland) facilitated a discussion on the BCC's definition and views of 'community' for the purposes of the NRWMF Project.

Ms Ashworth is currently at the University of Queensland as Chair in Sustainable Energy Futures and also works on building energy literacy more broadly and continuing her research around public perceptions of climate and energy technologies. Peta has been researching public attitudes to climate and energy technologies (wind, Carbon Capture Storage (CCS), solar PV, geothermal) for the past ten years with a particular focus on CCS. She previously co-chaired the Independent Advisory Panel for the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility project for the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science. She has also been Chair of the International Energy Agency GHG Social Research Network since its inception in 2009 and has assisted in the coordination of five international research meetings of the network – Paris, Yokohama, Noosa, Calgary and Cambridge (UK). Peta is also a partner in the Horizon2020 project Responsible Research and Innovation in Practice (RRI).

Currently 'the community' around Wallerberdina Station is defined as the area within a 50km radius, plus the remainder of the Flinders Ranges Council area. At this later stage of the site selection process, the BCC now has the opportunity to provide advice on an appropriate definition of the Barndioota community for the purpose of the final measure of community sentiment. The BCC was not required to come to a decision during this meeting.

Key points raised during this discussion are summarised below. This is not a final recommendation.

'Community' in general

- An area of people closely associated with a town or district.
- A sense of solidarity and care, people with shared values and willing to help in times of need.
- People living or working in an area with a town or city as its centre point.
- Friends and family outside are part of one's community, regardless of distance.

Thoughts on the Barndioota community

- Old District Council boundaries, including the properties directly adjoining these boundaries could be appropriate.
- Quorn is possibly not part of the community.
- Smaller towns north of Hawker and Wallerberdina Station are more connected to Hawker than those in the south.
- Aboriginal communities are not based solely on geographical boundaries.
- Boundaries could be made to include towns that use Hawker services, such as utility and medical services.

Other discussion

- The Chair suggested the BCC revisit this topic at the seventh or eighth BCC meeting, to determine if the definition of 'community' should change for the assessment of community sentiment at the end of Phase 2.
- The Chair invited BCC members to consider and liaise directly with the Project Team on any suggestions for amendments to the definition of the Barndioota community.
- It was noted that whatever definition of 'community' is ultimately used, it would also affect the area eligible for Community Benefits Programme funding.

Note: Until any changes are made to the definition of community, the existing definition of community will be retained for Community Benefits Programme.

Action Item 3: BCC members will consider the outcomes of the conversation about the definition of the Barndioota community, and re-visit the issue at a future meeting.

- A BCC member requested the maps that were shown during the meeting be provided to members via email.

Action Item 4: The NRWMF Project Team will provide the maps via email that were used to facilitate discussion during the meeting.

Action Item 5: Prof Peta Ashworth will compile a summary of the discussion under Agenda Item 5, and a proposal on the definition of 'community'. She will present this at the October BCC meeting.

Agenda Item 6: Measuring Community Sentiment

David Bruce (ORIMA Research) provided an overview of various processes for measuring community sentiment.

Mr Bruce has more than 20 years' experience in the market and social research industry, specialising in research for government agencies for the past 13 years. He has a background in psychology, and works across both quantitative and qualitative research methods. He has lived in SA, NSW, WA, Qld and the ACT, and his project work regularly takes him to every state and territory. Major projects have involved developing a language guide for Emergency Warnings, community expectations research relating to the Anzac Centenary and to inform the National Human Right Consultation, and national surveys on bushfire management, taxation, sport and attitudes to regional countries. David is a former Chair and current Committee member of the ACT Division of the Australian Market and Social Research Society, and holds the society's higher Qualified Practicing Market Researcher accreditation.

Summary

- General principles that apply to all measurement processes guide the exact methodology chosen by considering needs around objective, representative participation, equity, transparency, credibility and acceptance.
- General limitations and considerations in measurement processes are in regards to perfection, information, context, fairness and audiences.
- In developing a measurement process of community sentiment, the NRWMF Project will need to consider a clear objective, clear definitions of community and the eligibility criteria, the availability of a comprehensive sample frame, any sub-groups who may need special consideration, and processes to minimise potential for manipulation. The Government, with BCC input, will ultimately need to decide on a preferred measurement method against the defined constraints and needs.

Discussion

- A BCC member asked what the best process is for measuring community sentiment, in regards to vote weightings and 'yes' 'no' and 'maybe' vote response options. There is no right or wrong process. It is highly dependent on the circumstances of the project, the community, and the objective of the vote process. Generally, equal vote weighting is simpler and subject to less criticism, but in some situations may be very useful.

- A BCC member asked about how the previous survey process (March 2016) could influence the design of the next measurement process. On the one hand, the NRWMF Project could develop the next process independent of the previous process and focus solely on best practice principles. Alternatively, consideration of the previous process will allow the NRWMF Project to incorporate lessons from the previous process into the design of the new.
- A BCC member asked how the timing, the status of the NRWMF Project, could influence the results of a measurement process. A good measurement process will take into account the knowledge and the circumstances of the community and project at that point in time. The context is detailed and considered in any summary or analysis.
- A BCC member asked about the impartiality of measurement processes. Can the organisation funding the process seek to achieve a particular outcome?
 - Mr Bruce advised that as a professional market researcher, his foremost duty is to the respondents. To go against this principle would be to contravene the ethics and standards of his professional society.
- Members agreed to consider the information provided, and revisit the concept of measuring sentiment at a later date.

Agenda item 7: Telecommunications

Jaron Cooper and Vital D’Unienville (Telstra) provided an overview of the department’s intention to fund some initial telecommunications feasibility works in the region. The department will allocate some funding to work that will determine what infrastructure improvements could be made.

Discussion

- The BCC noted that Telstra’s initial work had focused on improving mobile coverage on the highway between Quorn and Hawker. Most BCC members agreed that it was more important to investigate improving coverage north of Hawker. Telstra agreed to re-scope their project and come back to the BCC with more information.
- The BCC asked about the feasibility of augmenting existing towers with improved technology. This could be possible, depending on the structural characteristics of the current towers.
- The BCC were invited to nominate members for a Telecommunications Working Group to work with Telstra on the details of this project. Telstra Area Manager Mark Bolton will contact the proposed members to seek information on the needs of the community. From this, Telstra will re-scope their feasibility work, and depending on costs and agreement from the department, will seek to carry out this work.
- Updates on this work will be provided to the BCC.

Action Item 6: The NRWMF Project Team will pass on the contact details of the BCC members nominated to the Telecommunications Working Group to Mark Bolton (Telstra). [Completed]

Telecommunications Working Group Members:

Name
Cecilia Woolford
John Rowe
Ashley Haywood
Phillip Fels

Action Item 7: The Telecommunications Working Group will liaise with Telstra on the development of a project proposal and report back to the BCC on progress.

- The BCC asked what kind of timeframe a desktop study would have. It will take 4-6 weeks for Telstra to develop a proposal. This timeframe begins as soon as the Telecommunications Working Group provide feedback to Mr Bolton.
- It should be noted that this work is a feasibility study only. There is no consideration at this stage of funding the infrastructure upgrades.

Agenda Item 8: LIDAR and Radiation Survey

David Simon (Geoscience Australia) provided an overview of various survey methods that will be conducted on the Wallerberdina Station site to obtain more information about its characteristics.

Summary

- There are four types of air-borne survey methods. A LIDAR survey presents high resolution elevation information and assesses flood risks and seismicity. A Radiometrics survey will assess how much potassium, thorium and uranium is on the surface at a point in time, to serve as a benchmark for future comparisons. A magnetic survey will identify and assess any underlying structural features, such as faults. An Airborne Electro Magnetics (AEM) survey will assess water table sequences, cover-depth and structure.
- There are two types of ground-based survey methods. This includes gravity and seismicity surveys.
- The survey work will commence at Wallerberdina Station in August 2017.

Agenda Item 9: Other Items

Administrative Items

- The BCC agreed to decide on the date of the Sixth BCC meeting outside of session. Dates under consideration are **Tuesday 1 August 2017** or **Tuesday 8 August 2017**.

Action Item 8: The BCC is to decide on the date of the Sixth BCC meeting out of session (either 1 or 8 August).

- The Chair reminded members to send invoices to the NRWMF Project inbox radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au and to consider visiting ANSTO's Lucas Heights campus if convenient.

The Community Benefits Programme

- The NRWMF Project Team noted that the Minister is likely to open the next round of the Community Benefits Programme in August and invited BCC members to comment on the programme guidelines.
- A BCC member suggested amending the eligibility area to extend northwards to Lake Torrens.

Videos

- A BCC member had submitted three videos to the Chair out of session, for viewing at this meeting. According to the member, the videos are to provide a different perspective to the NRWMF Project than had been presented thus far.
 - A BCC member questioned the purpose of watching one of the videos. A view was expressed that the contents of the video were irrelevant to this stage of the NRWMF Project and the responsibilities of the BCC. A comment was made that one or two videos might be culturally offensive. The BCC agreed not to watch these videos.
 - With respect to the third video, '[Would you like some nuclear waste with your Champagne?](#)', the BCC agreed to watch it at the next meeting.

- A BCC member noted one of the videos was from 2006 and depicted an incident in France that occurred in 1995. Some members were of the opinion this was irrelevant to the NRWFMF Project and that the French delegation (which visited Hawker in February 2017) had already discussed and addressed any potential concerns regarding this.