



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science

National
Radioactive Waste
Management Facility

Minutes

Kimba

May 16 2018

Economic Working Group

Kimba Economic Working Group
 Wednesday 16 May 2018
 Location: 49 High Street, Kimba SA 5641

Time	Item	Lead
Tea and Coffee from 8:30		
0830 – 0845	Introduction and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apologies - Agenda - Objective – Proposal Paper to the KCC 	Chair
0845 – 0930	Project Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information to be available before the vote 	Bruce Wilson (DIIS)
0930 – 1030	Jobs and Waste Acceptance Criteria	Hefin Griffiths (ANSTO)
1030 – 1100	Morning Tea	
1100 – 1200	Proposal List <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion around community benefits to be forwarded to Kimba Consultative Committee 	Bruce Wilson (DIIS)
12:00	Lunch	

Attendees:

David Schmidt (Chair)	Heather Baldock
Christine Lehmann	Deb Larwood
Dean Johnson	Pat Beinke
Laura Fitzgerald	Charlie Milton

Apologies:

No apologies

Other Attendees:

Name	Organisation
Bruce Wilson	DIIS NRWMF – Principal Adviser
Ian Carter	DIIS NRWMF – Community Consultation
Stephen Clarke	DIIS NRWMF – Community Liaison Officer
Maree Barford	DIIS NRWMF – Community Consultation

Action Items	Status
Action 1: Peta Ashworth to attend next meeting in June to discuss economic and social impact study	In Progress
Action 2: The department to share ANSTO presentation by Hefin Griffiths	Completed
Action 3: The department to share AECOM presentation by Alex Sawyer	Completed
Action 4: The department to follow up Optus	Completed – Deb Larwood provided information
Action 5: KEWG proposal priorities to feature in next KCC newsletter	Completed
Action 6: Suggested proposals and priorities to be sent to the Kimba Consultative Committee	Completed
Action 7: K-EWG and department to organise construction workshop	Completed

Meeting opened 8.30am

Introduction and welcome

The chair opened the meeting and congratulated council for making a decision to proceed with the vote. He added that the project proposals need to be completed today to then be forwarded to the Kimba Consultative Committee.

Project Update

Bruce Wilson provided an update on the project including AECOMs site characterisation work.

- The Kimba council met last week to endorse a community ballot – this came with the condition that the information stated on the timeline is provided to the community.
- The information will include technical reports and factsheets.

Discussion

- A member asked how these factsheet will be available.
 - Factsheets will be available on the NRWFM website, at the project office and a pack including all of the factsheets will be sent out to the community.
- A member stated that a letter was submitted to the council regarding an independent agricultural study.
 - A member added that this is something the Council may consider.
 - Bruce Wilson added agriculture can be part of the project social and economic impact study. The department want this to be an evidence based– we would look at comparable facilities in Australia and overseas.
 - A member stated that agriculture is a major concern. They agreed that it should be evidence based but would like to see if they could organise the analysis.
 - Bruce Wilson replied that the department has done its own research and found no evidence of a negative impact on agriculture.
 - A member asked if the factsheet on agriculture covers this.
 - Bruce Wilson replied that the factsheet is being finalised and it will include evidence based analysis.
 - A member commented that the timeline for the study is fairly short.

- The department has been progressing the economic and social studies prior to the vote.
 - A member stated that through an independent study there could be negative impacts found so they think this would be beneficial to the community.
- A member stated that they were told there would be an economic and social impact study some time ago.
 - Bruce Wilson stated the department are looking at two studies, the economic impacts on both communities and the economic study.
 - The study will cover impacts on agriculture.
 - The department is finalising contracts now. Peta Ashworth University of Queensland is conducting the social studies – she will want to talk to this group and look at potential benefits as well as the capabilities of local businesses.

ACTION 1: Peta Ashworth to attend next meeting in June to discuss economic and social impact study.

Waste Management and Jobs

Hefin Griffiths gave a presentation on waste management at the proposed facility. His presentation included the following:

- Waste management principles
- NRWMF project development
- Waste Acceptance process
- Intermediate Level Waste including case studies
- Multi-Barrier Approach

Discussion – waste management

- A member asked what happens if a package arrives at the facility and does not meet the criteria.
 - Hefin Griffiths replied that it could be sent back to where it came from or re-conditioned at the facility.
- A member asked if there would be any quality assurance before it left ANSTO.
 - Hefin Griffiths answered that there would certainly be inspection on receipt – the facility will take ownership of the waste at the gate of the site – therefore there’s the opportunity to do those assurance inspections before the waste is accepted.
- A member asked if radionuclides would be immobilised.
 - For intermediate waste we will be neutralising it through synroc or glass – through low level waste it will be through concrete.
- A member pointed out that the middle chart on slide 7 could cause the public concern
 - Hefin Griffiths suggested that the column is changed to *Excluded Substances* rather than *Controlled Substances*.
- A member asked what percentage of waste will come from overseas.
 - The reprocessed waste that comes from France is in-fact Australian waste which is sent over to be reprocessed. It makes up about 1% of the waste.
- A member asked if all waste will be transported in its finished concealed state?
 - There will be minimal conditioning at the facility.
- A member asked if the TN-81 canisters are made in Australia.
 - The TN-81 canisters are made in France.

Discussion - Jobs

- A member asked why there is now 45 jobs when they were originally told that there was only 15 jobs.
 - Hefin Griffiths explained that the number of 15 was never a final number it just included operational jobs. The new number includes a whole range of positions.
- A member asked that if the facility does include more conditioning would that equate to more jobs.
 - Hefin Griffiths explained that it could and what isn't included is things like maintenance.
- A member asked if it will require specialised transporters or could anyone transport the waste.
 - All they would need is a dangerous good clearance and ANSTO could provide this sort of training.
- A member asked if the 12 security guards be fulltime.
 - Yes. Australian Federal Police Standards is that there at least 3 guards on-site.
- A member asked if the economic impact studies will look into the impact of jobs.
 - Bruce Wilson confirmed that the studies will look at the benefits of the facility as well as the indirect benefits.
 - He added that 45 jobs is about \$3.8 million in wages so the studies will look at the impact of this.
- A member asked why it wasn't acceptable to dispose of intermediate level waste at the facility.
 - Hefin Griffiths explained that intermediate level waste requires more barriers.
 - The current solutions for disposal are not economically viable.
- A member asked if the amount of Intermediate Level Waste increase.
 - Hefin Griffiths explained that ANSTO is projecting that it will double in the next 70 equating to 5-10 cubic metres each year.
- A member expressed their concern of where it will leave Kimba if there is no more low-level waste after 50 years.
 - Hefin Griffiths confirmed that there will be consistent stream of low level waste and that will require ongoing security, maintenance and monitoring for a longer period.
- A member asked how long construction will take.
 - As an estimate – 18 months to 3 years.
- A member asked what percentage of the jobs start when the facility starts operating.
 - ANSTO will be developing an operational readiness plan which includes this information.
 - Hefin Griffiths added that some of the jobs can start right away – security etc. may be later on.
 - Bruce Wilson added that this can be worked into our studies perhaps a timeline of when these jobs will be available.

ACTION 2: The department to share ANSTO presentation by Hefin Griffiths

AECOM – Local opportunities

Alex Sawers from AECOM gave an overview of the employment opportunities available through various stages of the project including:

- Characterisation study
- Early works
- Construction works
- Operations and management

Discussion

- A member asked what the rules in the tender when considering local contractors.
 - Bruce Wilson added that there will need to be a competitive process but equally the department want to make sure there are local opportunities.
 - There will be a local content requirement in the tender.
- A member mentioned that before the facility is even running there will be plenty of opportunities for locals.
- Alex Sawyer added that there will be all-type of trades out there at the same time.
- A member mentioned the idea of a conglomerate of local contractor.
 - A member added that this would be a good way of getting the local contractors work out of the project.
 - Another member added that costs for training could also be shared.
- A member added that this information needs to go out the whole community, so that businesses know what opportunities there are and how they can be capitalised.
- A member asked how close the site characterisation is to completion and if the minister will make a decision on the site before the vote.
 - All the physical site characterisation work is complete.
 - The report will be available mid-July.
- A member asked if the site-characterisation work could eliminate a site.
 - It is possible but there aren't any show-stoppers currently.
- Bruce Wilson talked through the process after the vote and how the Minister will consider each site through community support and technical consideration from the site suitability study.

ACTION 3: The department to share AECOM presentation by Alex Sawyer

Proposal list

As requested by the Kimba Consultative Committee (KCC), the Kimba Economic Working Group reviewed suggestions passed on by the KCC for possible projects that might be sought from the Australian Government should the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility be sited at Napandee or Lyndhurst.

The Kimba Economic Working Group agreed on the following list of priorities:

1. Health and aged care
2. Telecommunications
3. Accommodation and Mining camp
4. Multi-user grain facility
5. Affordable energy

6. Business and Community Development Officer
7. Childcare Services
8. Education

Other important measure (in no particular order)

- Agriculture Research & Development
- Tourism/Cultural Centre
- Water Management
- Further boosting local accommodation, (complementary options above)

Swimming pool

Discussion

- A member stated that a whole new complex including:
 - Full Olympic size swimming pool – heated and enclosed as well as a hydro therapy pool
 - Canteen
 - Staff operating the pool
 - Operated as a business
- A member added the community would utilise the facility – for recreation use and for professional use and therapy.
- A member added that it is absolute critical that we have a pool that is public and staffed so it's accessible all the time.

Aged care / Healthcare

Health and aged care issues and solutions were discussed with the immediate priorities noted as:

- Securing adequate General Practitioner services
- Adding 4-6 consulting rooms at the medical centre, for increased community and allied health services. This would also provide a 'health hub' for providing regional services out of Kimba.
- Additional aged care beds plus infrastructure, (buildings etc.).

Discussion

- A member stated that Council will need the advice from SA Health on how many beds are required.
- Bruce Wilson stated that from his perspective a baseline assessment first and then develop a plan.
- A member added that if Council are already doing a study that information can be taken and a wider study can be undertaken.
 - A member mentioned that it may be an opportunity to source funding to undertake a wider study.
 - A member added that it's an opportunity to make Kimba a regional centre.
- A member stated the priority should be a General Practitioner.
- A member stated that after this the priority should be an extension on the medical centre.
- The department asked how many rooms they would require.
 - At a minimum it would need to double – a minimum of 4 added rooms.
- Many members agreed that Aged-care bed are also a priority.

- Bruce Wilson added that the baseline strategy is to position Kimba as a regional provider in healthcare.
 - Members agreed.

Purchase of Mining camp

The vacant mining camp could be purchased and used to provide accommodation for construction of the facility and then later transitioned to community ownership for use as a base for conventions or similar further down the track.

Capital Contribution Benefit payment

Discussion

- A member suggested for consideration that a one off payment of the capital contribution fund should be equally divided to each ratepayer.
- A member stated that it's not in the spirit of what we're about and that it doesn't represent the interests of the community.
- Bruce Wilson added that it's not something the department would be able to justify to the Minister.
- Members agreed that it's not something they will support moving forward.

Telecommunications

Options were discussed and members agreed that the immediate priority attention to be given to providing district wide mobile phone coverage focussing initially on current black spots.

Discussion

- Maree Barford mention that Mark Bolton (Telstra) is going to develop a plan including the area's needs.
- A member asked if anyone has contacted Optus.
 - Ian Carter confirmed Optus had not been contacted.
- A member added that the immediate priority would be to have coverage at the facility and township.
- Members agreed that improved mobile phone coverage throughout the district particularly addressing black spots in the priority.

ACTION 4: The department to follow up Optus

Multi-user facility

The multi-user grain facility was noted as a priority and will be subject to the results of the feasibility study currently being undertaken.

Discussion

- A member mentioned that it could be subject to the results of the feasibility study.
- Members agreed that it would be a priority on the proposal list.

Agricultural R&D Funding

Discussion

- A member stated that they think that R&D should happen regardless of this funding.
- Members agreed that they would like this to be mandatory if the site goes ahead.
 - Bruce Wilson confirmed that the government has committed to this.
- A member mentioned that the purpose is to monitor the buffer zone to make sure there is no change in the baseline radiation.
 - Hefin Griffiths confirmed that it will be used to monitor.
- A member added that a major concern people have voiced isn't so much the safety but the perception. The monitoring of the grain can help as it can prove to the big grain buyers that there are not effects.

Renewable Energy Opportunities

The group discussed affordable and secure energy solutions. They noted that this would benefit the whole community greatly including business and agreed it should be a priority. Again the feasibility study outcomes will need to be considered.

Discussion

- A member stated that energy should be a priority prices are effecting small businesses
- Bruce Wilson asked if the focus is on renewable opportunities or stable and secure energy.
 - A member spoke from the Councils perspective - secure power has been handled by the state government but affordability is more important.
- A member asked if the group is energy a higher priority than education.
 - A member replied that education funding can be sourced in other ways – if there was a community fund the school can build on things.
 - A member added that both are priorities. However, energy is something that will be beneficial to the whole community.

Business community development officer

The group agreed that a business and community development officer would be an immediate priority. A member suggested that council could provide support to this person. The Working Group bundled this suggestion with “building business capacity” as a package.

Childcare

Members agreed that there is an urgent need for more childcare facilities in town to support the community and attract workers for the facility.

Discussion

- A member stated there is a need and they believe the facility would create demand.
 - Bruce Wilson mentioned there are a number of private childcare providers so the government would want to make sure that their business isn't effected.
 - A member assured that these private providers have gone private to lower the costs and that they wouldn't be effected.
- Members agreed that this is the next priority.

Legislation

Discussion

- A member asked when the issue of the current legislation will be addressed.
 - Bruce Wilson replied it is ultimately the decision of the people in Canberra. However, the way the \$10 million is distributed and managed is being looked at in conjunction with the community's proposals.
- An offer from the government will be available in July.

Education

Members noted that education is a priority especially if more families will be living in Kimba. Many of the education projects suggested have already been committed to by the department and ANSTO if the facility were to go ahead.

Discussion

- Bruce Wilson stated that the department has already committed to supporting education. ASNTO will look at these things as part of the package.
- A member asked if the list of proposals will go to the community or the public before it goes to the Minister.
 - Members agreed that they could share the list.
 - A member added that it's something that could go in the community newsletter – the chair of the economic working group could supply something that goes in the Kimba Newsletter.

ACTION 5: KEWG proposal priorities to feature in next KCC newsletter

ACTION 6: Suggested proposals and priorities to be sent to the Kimba Consultative Committee

Construction Workshop

- A members suggested that a forum could be held in Kimba for all trades and hold workshops etc.
- Bruce Wilson agreed suggesting that businesses could develop contacts and find out what is needed to work with larger contractors.
- Alex Sawers added that all stakeholder would find this beneficial.
- A member suggested that this could be organised as a workshop.
- A member added that it should be an evening event.

ACTION 7: K-EWG and department to organise construction workshop

- The group agreed that this would be a good idea and agreed that the department can begin organising.

Meeting Closed 3pm