

CARE Forum

Meeting held at Vales Point Power Station

Wednesday, 10 February 2010 - 5:00 p.m.

Community members: Chris Smith, Coral Burnham, Kevin Spencer, Stuart Durie, Bob Brooks, Trevor Wrightson.

Delta attendees: Glenn Sharrock, GM Central Coast Operations; Suzanne Laucht, Environment Manager, Kerrie Derrick Graduate Environmental Scientist, Margaret Miller, Corporate Relations Manager.

Apologies: Peter Bates, Steve Jackson, Marlene Norman, Jill Meechan and Marvin Campbell

Glenn Sharrock welcomed all attendees. Suzanne Laucht introduced (names and designations).

It was noted that Gary Prince was not able to attend but that he had recently been awarded Wyong Shire Council Citizen of the Year. This news was greeted with acclamation and it was agreed that the congratulations of all CARE Forum members be noted in the meeting notes.

Actions arising from November '09 CARE Forum meeting were noted for follow up:

1. Delta presentation about Munmorah refurbishment proposal had taken place.

The meeting notes were considered ok by all present.

Operational Report and NSW Energy Reform

Glenn Sharrock gave an overview of operations on the Central Coast. He began by noting that with the commissioning of Colongra Delta was, at over 5000MW installed capacity, now the largest capacity generator in Australia. Colongra had been in the market frequently on the hot days when spot market is volatile and prices can spike and it had been meeting its business and operational objectives. Both Vales Point and Munmorah power stations had excellent levels of performance and availability since the major outage at VP in November '09 demonstrating the merits of expenditure on capital upgrades. Glenn noted a recent celebration had been held with staff for achieving over 13 months operating with no lost time injuries. Next planned outage in Spring 2010 for VP. Munmorah 3 is supplying energy and providing emissions to test the carbon capture research plant while MM4 is on standby.

A resolution to an issue arising from the fabric filter bags is still in negotiation.

Gentrader update

Glenn reviewed the earlier presentation about the Gentrader proposal noting the Government wished to have the data room for development sites available for potential bidders by December 2009.

Gas Pipeline project – environmental impacts management overview

Suzanne Laucht gave a short presentation on the rehabilitation of the corridor where the pipeline supplying fuel to Colongra was laid. It was noted that an environmental offset of twice as much land as was required in order to create the easement over sensitive bushland was made available by Delta – this is known as two for one offset. During construction, an environmental management plan was required which included selectively removing trees so that tree dwelling fauna can safely migrate away from the area. This plan also included the installation of posts that were placed to help squirrel gliders move more easily.

Noise mitigation measures were installed to reduce impacts from the compressor station and to enhance security signage must be erected to be visible along the route of the pipeline.

Re-vegetation of the easement with low lying shrubs has been slower than expected because of the drought. Any self seeding large trees will be removed.

Presentation on environmental management of Colongra gas turbine

Kerrie Derrick gave a presentation outlining the Operational Environmental Management plan that is adhered to in the operation of the Colongra Gas Turbines. The plan incorporates an air quality management plan, a water management plan (including spill control measures) and a noise management plan. (see presentation slides.)

Other issues:

The issue was raised about the carbon capture project and potential impacts on electricity prices and about the potential to locate sites for storage of captured carbon dioxide. It was agreed that a presentation on electricity pricing would be arranged for the next meeting.

Community Feedback:

Bill Brooks - noted that there was to be free (gold coin donation) Family Film Night on 26 February at 6.30pm supported by Wyong Council and Delta. Previous event was very popular.

Coral Burnham – reported that the Australia Day breakfast in Mannering Park was another great success with Chris Smith adding that the Lions Club had used 800 eggs while managing the bbq.

Kevin Spencer – noted that Gwandalan was ‘fairly quiet’. The Precinct meeting attracted 60 residents. He noted that a group is being formed to be part of the Australian Coal Alliance to oppose the Kores proposal.

Several members expressed concern about proposals to mine under the lake and potentially, under homes as well as concerns about increased numbers of coal trucks. Truck movements and coal dust are issues for the community.

Trevor Wrightson – the Mannering Park Precinct Committee is lobbying for an amenities block on the oval with change rooms, toilets and a kiosk. They also keen to see improvements in landscaping lands and gardens as well as seating along the shared walkway.

Meeting finished at 7.30pm. Next meeting was proposed for 19 May, 2010.