

Central Coast Community Access Regional Environment CARE Forum

Meeting Notes 11 May 2011

Attendees

Community Representatives:

Bob Brooks, Coral Burnham, Trevor Wrightson, Derek Zietsch, John Challinore, Peter Snelling.

Delta Electricity:

Greg Everett (Chief Executive), Glenn Sharrock (General Manager/Central Coast), Julia Harvey (Corporate Relations Manager), Suzanne Laucht (Environment Manager/Central Coast), Beverley Taylor (Acting Commercial Manager/Central Coast), Anthony Callen (Sustainability Technologist).

1. Apologies & Introductions

Apologies were received from Stuart Durie, Steve Jackson, Peter Bates, Marvin Campbell, Kevin Spencer, and Garry Prince.

Greg Everett, Delta Electricity's Chief Executive, was introduced to the members of the CARE Forum. Peter Snelling and John Challinore were introduced as representatives of the Lake Munmorah Precinct Committee.

2. February 2011 Meeting Notes

The meeting notes were taken as read. Follow up on mail out of last meeting notes as some members did not receive the meeting notes.

3. Operational Report - Glenn Sharrock

The Quarterly Operational Report was presented by Glenn Sharrock. The following items were presented – Safety, energy production and availability, coal supplies, A-Station demolition, GenTrader, Munmorah Power Station, and IPART electricity pricing.

The following items were further discussed –

A-Station – Completion of Demolition

A Part 5 environmental assessment and approval has been undertaken with the development of Safety/Environmental Management Plans for the completion of the demolition works. Delta confirmed that the majority of the asbestos on the site was removed by 1990. Any remaining asbestos that is found will be removed in accordance with the required codes and sent to approved disposal sites. Delta also confirmed that once the A-Station is demolished, the site will be levelled and that there are currently no plans for the site. The stacks associated with the A-Station will remain.

Munmorah Power Station

Recent media from Wyong Shire Council was discussed. Delta confirmed it fully complies with all environmental requirements which are reported to the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage. Delta environmental licences are publicly available on the relevant websites. The Forum outlined their views on Munmorah Power Station and indicated that the views of the community were not necessarily the same as Council.

IPART Price Increases

The Forum discussed the structure of price increases and that electricity prices had been historically low, however needed to increase to upgrade and maintain assets. The structure of prices shows that generators receive a similar price for electricity as in the 1990s and the majority of the price increase is due to distribution asset upgrades and green scheme impacts.

4. Environmental Update – Suzanne Laucht

10 complaints and inquiries were received in the last quarter. Seven inquiries related to land management (vegetation clearing, trail bike riders, dumped rubbish, and damaged fence, of which three inquiries were noise related), two inquiries related to air quality (samples taken show that the issue was from a natural source, not from the Power Station), and one inquiry was a request for information on fuel supplies. Delta's monitoring of environmental compliance is ongoing with results showing our activities are within the relevant guidelines.

The community members noted that the number of trail bike riders had decreased dramatically as a result of the additional Police patrols on trail bikes which is a good outcome.

Radiata pine growth was discussed. Delta has a Land Management Plan and will first target areas of concern and then move into more remote/non-visible locations.

Discussion took place on a future extension of a cycleway/walking path around the lake. The community indicated that local Precincts are supportive and the objective is to link communities, shops, and schools in the area. It was agreed that this was a long-term community issue and that discussions would continue.

5. Sustainability – Anthony Callen

The Delta Sustainability Advantage Program was presented by Anthony Callen. Delta joined in the program in 2009 and has completed three of the nine modules and has now achieved Bronze status. As a part of this initiative, Delta's Central Coast Power Stations have saved millions of litres of water, the Western Region is trialling the use of fly ash in road base, and across the organisation Delta has implemented a Step Ahead Program which recognises sustainable behaviour and initiatives of Delta staff. Delta will complete the next round of modules to attain Silver status. The Forum congratulated Anthony and Delta on this achievement.

6. Communications Update – Julia Harvey

Delta is investigating using different communications channels to connect and inform the Central Coast and Lake Macquarie communities, in particular radio which has a strong following in the Central Coast and Lake Macquarie communities. Bob Brooks will provide the local radio contacts to Julia for follow up.

7. Community Feedback

- Pioneer Model Dairy - it was raised that the group are looking at a number of sites.
- Wye Point – it was raised that the money allocated to the barbecue/boat ramp area was deemed by authorities as not enough to complete the appropriate works. Discussion was held about the need for a BBQ at the boat ramp and a community member advised that funding is often available through Fishing Licences funding.
- The community advised that it is interested in receiving further information on the completion of the A-Station demolition when the work is commencing. It was confirmed that a briefing will take place at the next CARE Forum meeting.
- The Arts, Craft & Photography Showcase was a great success. Over 300 people attended and it has been decided to hold another one next year. Delta was thanked for its sponsorship of the event.
- The community made a number of suggestions regarding Delta and opportunities to participate and provide information at local events such as Festivals.
- Munmorah Power Station was discussed and how the particulate emissions are reduced by 99.9% with Fabric Filter technology which was installed many years ago. When operating there are no visible emissions and the licence requirements are the same as newer power stations.
- Carbon Capture and Storage Project – Anthony Callen advised that the project is moving to Vales Point and that Delta is working towards developing the larger part of the process which involves locating a site for storage.

8. General Business

The meeting was advised that Jim Hennessey, Delta Electricity's previous Chief Executive, had unexpectedly passed away in February 2011. The meeting and community acknowledged his substantial contribution and his legacy to Delta.

Garry Prince from Lake Munmorah Progress Association has retired from the CARE Forum. Delta and the Forum thanked Garry for his participation and showed their appreciation.

The community thanked Greg Everett, Delta Electricity's Chief Executive, for his attendance and participation at the meeting.

9. Next Meeting

Wednesday 10 August 2011, 5.00pm