

CARE Forum Notes

9 November 2011

Attendees:

CARE Forum

Bob Brooks, Coral Burnham, Trevor Wrightson, Derek Zietsch, Steve Jackson, Peter Bates

Delta Electricity:

Glenn Sharrock (General Manager/Central Coast), Julia Harvey (Corporate Relations Manager), Suzanne Laucht (Environment Manager/Central Coast), Anthony Callen (Sustainability Technologist).

Apologies:

Chris Smith, Peter Snelling, John Challinore

Visitors:

Declan Kuch, University of Newcastle; Graham Webb, University of Newcastle.

1. Welcome

Glenn Sharrock, GM Central Coast, opened the meeting and welcomed CARE Forum members and visitors.

Declan Kuch and Graham Webb from University of Newcastle were introduced. The University of Newcastle are working on the social/community knowledge around carbon mineralisation and Carbon Capture and Sequestration. They explained their project to the Forum and requested that they observe the CARE Forum in action. They are working on a research project with a final report in December 2012. The proposal was discussed and it was agreed that the University researchers could observe the Forum.

2. Discussion on the August 2011 Meeting Notes

3. Operational Report Glenn Sharrock

Glenn Sharrock gave an overview of safety, production, availability, and unit operations. Discussions took place on repairs at Vales Point, Colongra 'A' inspections, and the future outage planned at the end of December on Vales Point Unit 6. Colongra Unit 1 will be out for service in November and December 2011.

Coal supplies were discussed confirming 6 trucks per day (on average) coming from the south coast. A feasibility study is underway by LDO Coal looking to use the unloader to do backloads to Newcastle. A LDO representative will be invited to attend the next CARE Forum meeting.

Discussion took place amongst Forum members regarding concerns about coal under Mannering Park, impacts on the foreshore, and undermining and future mining. A public meeting is being held locally at Doyalson on these issues and proposals.

Glenn confirmed that Delta has future long term coal contracts and our stockpiles will increase due to lower usage during outages.

Truck movements around Vales Point were outlined:

- Biomass supplies have up to 5 trucks per week delivering biomass that can be co-fired with coal.
- Vales Point Ash Dam – up to 30 per week allowable – average 10 per week.
- A-Station Demolition works – truck and vehicle movements will increase over the next few months as the demolition commences. The trucks will move via Constitution Rd then Pacific Hwy.
- Vales Point Unit 5 outage – general increase in vehicle movements.

Community member requested % breakup of coal transportation. It was confirmed that 95% of coal for Vales Point was transported by rail with 5% by road.

Project Updates:

Vales Point Ash Dam capping and rehabilitation has commenced. Vales Point A-Station has preliminary work with site set up underway soon.

Other issues include the release of Tamberlin Inquiry Report which provided recommendations and future options for the NSW Government. The Auditor General's Report into the Electricity Transactions also released.

Kelly Moore and Lauren Willis were introduced to the Forum and were thanked for their effort in coordinating the setup of the meeting, catering, and ensuring delivery of meeting notes.

Actions:

It was agreed that Contractor LTI's would be included in the information provided to the Forum at the next meeting.

The Forum expressed an interest in having a presentation on coal mining and current proposals at the February 2012 meeting.

4. Environmental Update Suzanne Laucht

Suzanne presented an update on environmental issues including a presentation recently given to Lake Munmorah Precinct Committee. The number of community enquiries had dropped, with only 1 enquiry generated.

It was raised that other infrastructure work (not Delta) had generated noise on Tall Timbers Road recently. Suzanne confirmed that Delta has a noise monitor in place in that area.

A doorknock is planned to be undertaken by the Contract Administrator and Environment Manager for residents of Griffith St who reside directly adjacent to Vales Point Power Station. This visit will occur just prior to works being undertaken on site.

Distribution of A-Station brochures to the community was discussed, with Coral Burnham generously offering to place some brochures on the Mannering Park community notice board.

Actions:

It was agreed that additional A-Station brochures would be sent to Coral Burnham to place on the community noticeboard.

5. Presentation – Colongra Pipeline Easement Suzanne Laucht

Suzanne presented on the regeneration project along the Colongra Pipeline Easement and provided images showing the impressive growth along much of the area due to excellent rainfall during 2011.

The Forum commented on the excellent progress the planting has made. Various questions were fielded on types of native fauna in the area that might feed on the tube stock (wallabies) and what maintenance takes place inside the pipeline (every 5 – 10 years ultrasound and X-rays).

Delta, the Department of Primary Industry (formerly the Department of Water and Energy), the Office of Environment and Heritage, and both Lake Macquarie and Wyong Shire Councils will be required to approve the regeneration works for Jemena Colongra Pty Ltd to go into maintenance mode for the pipeline easement.

6. Communications Update Julia Harvey

Julia provided information on A-Station communications, recent website updates, and a new Delta Central Coast and Lake Macquarie Community update to be published in local papers to commence in January 2012.

7. Feedback from Community Groups

Coral Burnham, Mannering Park Progress Association - Thanks to Delta for the five chairs/benches that have now been located and installed in the local community in Peveril St, Mannering Park and Noamunga Cres, Gwandalan.

Bob Brooks, Chain Valley Bay & Macquarie Shores Village Community - The successful Wyong Art Showcase will be held again in 2012 and a letter requesting support will be forwarded shortly. Discussion also took place about the cost of the BBQ at Joel Porter Reserve and the need to get community ownership to support and maintain community assets.

Peter Bates, Gwandalan Progress Association - Confirmed the current discussion around coal issues.

Derek Zietsch, Wyee Point Progress Association & LandCare - Further to discussion at previous meetings regarding the sharing pathway, Derek outlined the current discussions with Lake Macquarie Council, the need to get Federal funds, and the importance of the plan that should be approved by Council to further the project.

Trevor Wrightson, Mannering Park Precinct Committee - Discussion of the shared path and the amenities block at the oval. Funds have been allocated and tenders have been called. It is understood that work will commence in March 2012.

Steve Jackson, Gwandalan & Summerland Point Precinct Committee – Thank you to Delta for their continuing support of the local community.

8. General Business

Delta has provided a lease to Ausgrid for the placement of a 132kV supply line to the TransGrid switchyard. This means that the line is on Delta land rather than alongside the road, reducing the visual impacts.

The 2011 Power Industry Safety Games were recently hosted by Macquarie Generation with Delta senior and apprentice teams participating. This gave Delta and others in the industry valuable experience and practice in a range of activities including fire-fighting and first aid.

Eraring Power Station recent fire was discussed and Delta's planning and preparedness to prevent incidents and accidents was highlighted.

Colongra Power Station was recently awarded ISO 14001 certification. Vales Point and Munmorah Power Stations have also been recertified. This accreditation ensures that standards are met and independently audited.

A brief update on the Carbon Capture and Storage project was given with the actions for 2012 including moving (and retrofitting) the plant to Vales Point Power Station.

General discussion was undertaken around the challenges for next year, including the carbon tax and possible changes in NSW to ownership in the sector.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CARE Forum is scheduled for 5pm, Wednesday 8 February.