

1.1 HUMELINK WAGGA WAGGA COOTAMUNDRA GUNDAGAI COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP: INAUGURAL MEETING

Time	2.30pm – 4.30pm
Date	26 October 2021
Attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Inaugural Chair: Brian Elton – Secretariat: Katie Casson – Transgrid: Deb Pobjie, Sumaya Osman, Tim Edwards, Fleur Laurence, – CCG: Cheryl Penrith, Phillip McMurray, Daniel Brear, Catriona McAuliffe, Serena Hardwick, Michael Keys – Independent Landowner and Community Advocate: Rod Stowe – Deputy Landowner and Community Advocate (Observer): Barbara El-Gamal
Apologies	Clr Kerry Pascoe
Meeting location	Online meeting
Meeting materials	Code of Conduct Agreements, Presentation
Purpose of meeting	Inaugural Meeting
Attachments to minutes	Question tracker, presentation, Stowe report recommendations

1.2 AGENDA

Item	Agenda topic	Discussion summary	To note
1	Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country	<p>Welcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Welcome from the Inaugural Chair, introductions, background and involvement in the project from members of the Community Consultative Group (CCG) – Introductions and overview of the Stowe report from the independent Landowner and Community Advocate and Deputy Landowner and Community Advocate – Introductions and involvement in the project from Transgrid attendees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Apologies at the meeting, Clr Kerry Pascoe – The Inaugural Chair noted that the meeting is being minuted.
2	CCG establishment	<p>About the Code of Conduct Agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Inaugural Chair reiterated to the CCG the importance of signing the Code of Conduct Agreement and its purpose <p>General housekeeping:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All members are to agree to and sign the Code of Conduct Agreement ahead of the next meeting – All members are to notify the Inaugural Chair and Secretariat on attendance and alternatives ahead of each meeting – All meetings should have adequate video capability for those who are

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Inaugural Chair discussed general housekeeping, formats of meetings and attendance procedures <p>Expectations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As members of the CCG you are to act as a representative of your community and contact details will be made available - The Inaugural Chair is available in between meetings to discuss matters with members of the CCG as they may arise. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - unable to travel or attend face-to-face meetings (pending COVID-19 health restrictions) - The CCG are able to share and circulate questions ahead of each meeting, but these must be sent to the Inaugural Chair and Secretariat for coordination of response from Transgrid and recording - All members of the CCG are comfortable for their contact details to be made available for members of the community who might want to ask questions or seek clarity on matters. - No additional comments or questions were posed from the group to note.
3	<p>Introducing the HumeLink team</p>	<p>Team introductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fleur introduced the engagement team for HumeLink and outlined their roles - To increase engagement and responsiveness with the community, the community engagement team has been increased with the addition of three local place managers - In July, Transgrid heard from the Landowner and Community Advocate Review that the community was not satisfied with consultation and information to date on the HumeLink project. All 20 recommendations to improve engagement in the Stowe report have been adopted - It is acknowledged at Transgrid that more work needs to be done to improve engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deb Pobjie is the Place Manager for the Wagga Wagga, Cootamundra, Gundagai region and is the day-to-day contact from Transgrid's community team - Counselling services for impacted community members can be booked online – see below: <i>Book an appointment by calling Assure on 1800 808 374, or you can request an appointment online,</i> https://assureprograms.com.au/book-an-appointment/ - The recommendations made within the Stowe report have been attached to these minutes for reference - Transgrid will continue to tailor information for the community and ensure it is available and easy to access - Transgrid is to share the relevant contact details so that the community can easily access information.

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		<p>with the community and create trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is imperative that Transgrid respond to questions in a timely manner - Independent counselling services have been established for land holders. <p>Discussion:</p> <p><i>The group opened up to a discussion about the engagement process undertaken to date and efforts that need to be undertaken by Transgrid. Comments from the group are below:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a need for Transgrid to demonstrate to the community that it is genuinely interested in the needs of the local community and there is a great deal of trust that needs to be rebuilt - Transgrid must be seen to act on the recommendations made in the Stowe report. The CCG meetings are one step, but it will not be enough if the company does not make timely, clear and ongoing efforts to work with the community - Without a clear and ongoing demonstration from Transgrid the community will not be able to build a relationship with the company - Information is a powerful medium. Transgrid has failed to share correct, clear and timely information with landholders and the broader community. Information must be available through many 	

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		<p>channels for the community to access. This will minimise confusion.</p> <p><i>Questions and responses have been outlined in the attached Question Tracker.</i></p>	
4	Orientation to the HumeLink Project	<p>About the project and status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tim gave an overview of the project and its need to the group - HumeLink is a critical energy infrastructure project which will see a new 360km 500kV double circuit transmission line connecting Wagga Wagga, Bannaby and Maragle to the existing power network - The project is being driven by new renewable generation sources and to increase capacity in the network - The Project Assessment Conclusions Report (PACR) was submitted to the AER in July 2021 - Transgrid is continuing to review and refine the project corridor. <p>Key definitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To help build understanding and clarification of various matters that will be discussed in the CCG, Sumaya gave an overview and explanation of the key project definitions. <p>How a study corridor is defined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As an initial introduction to the project and to support subsequent meetings Sumaya then presented how Transgrid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The key definitions are available in the attached Presentation. Additional definitions have been added since the CCG meeting - Further detail on tier 1 and 2 constraints can be referred to in the attached Presentation - The interactive map for landholders and the local community is on the project web page - The Inaugural Chair asked the CCG if anyone had questions or a need for clarification on the key definitions and terminology. No members sought additional information.

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		<p>looks to assess a study corridor and the types of constraints that are considered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community members are encouraged to provide information and feedback through the project's online interactive map. This feedback is a key part of the project planning process. 	
5	Discussion and general business	<p>Discussion:</p> <p><i>The group opened up to a discussion.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group noted the need and interest in further understanding the constraints and methodology for corridor refinement going forward - Members of the CCG were interested to see how efforts are undertaken to minimise impacts to agriculture and residential areas - Broader discussion was held in relation to additional renewable generation in the Gundagai area as well as landholders who have invested in systems on their site who will not want to be impacted by the project. <p><i>Questions and responses have been outlined in the attached Question Tracker.</i></p>	
6	Agenda setting for subsequent meetings	<p>The next meeting and information and timing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Inaugural Chair asked the group if the time and proposed date for the next meeting is agreed - The group discussed the length of the meeting and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12.30pm, 16 November 2021 in Gundagai was agreed for the next meeting.

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		<p>opportunities to save time when possible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Members also sought clarity on opportunities to have travel expenses reimbursed– Proposed agenda items were discussed and agreed in principle.	
7	Meeting close	<i>The Inaugural Chair closed the meeting and thanked attendees for their time and input.</i>	

1.3 OPEN ACTIONS

Action	Status or comment
Secretariat is to follow up with members on administrative details including signed Code of Conduct Agreements and sharing of contact details	Underway
The 20 recommendations outlined in Transgrid's commitment to improve engagement are to be circulated for reference to members – link to report is here	Complete
Transgrid to share information with members of the CCG on the difference between single and double circuit towers, what they look like and their size	To be presented at next session
Interactive map for landholders and the community is to be shared with the CCG - Link is above	Complete
Transgrid to make the contact details for members of their Community Team (Place Managers) available to the CCG	Complete

1.4 NEXT MEETING

Item	
1	Presentation and discussion on communication and information sharing with the community to help improve efforts going forward
2	Size and impacts of infrastructure, what the community can expect

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3	Deep dive into the study corridor, other options including undergrounding and feasibility studies for Humelink
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1.5 CLOSED ACTIONS

No.	Action	Status or comment
1	Secretariat is to follow up with members on administrative details including signed Code of Conduct Agreements and sharing of contact details	Underway
2	The 20 recommendations outlined in Transgrid's commitment to improve engagement are to be circulated for reference to members – link to report is here	Complete
5	Interactive map for landholders and the community is to be shared with the CCG - Link is above	Complete
6	Transgrid to make the contact details for members of their Community Team (Place Managers) available to the CCG	Complete

Endorsed by the Chair of the WWCG CCG
18/11/21