



**Chair:** Trudie Larnach  
**Location:** McIntyre Theatre, Newcastle Museum  
**Time / Date:** 5:00pm to 5:35pm, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019  
**Subject:** **Port Waratah Coal Services Community Meeting**, followed by a public forum with CSIRO presenting the results of the 2018 'Local Voices' Port Waratah Community Survey

**Attendees:**

Community Stakeholders:	Port Waratah Representatives:
Rick Banyard	Mark Feeney – Manager Operations Delivery
Mary Busted	Mark Carlin – Operation Superintendent, Kooragang
Marinella Fragiaco	Trudie Larnach – Manager Environment & Community Relations
Christene Harkness	Glenn Cook – Environmental Specialist
Katelijin Hullegie	Megan Flanagan – Community Relations Advisor
Lyn Kilby	Trevor Thompson – Environmental Officer
Terry McCauley	

**Apologies Received:** John Hayes, Clare Monkley, Callan Nickerson

## Item 1: Welcome and Actions

- Trudie Larnach (TL) welcomed attendees provided an overview of the meeting agenda and format of the evening.
- TL discussed the actions to come from the previous Community Meeting (November 2018), which were as follows:
  - Port Waratah were to investigate a tour of the Hunter Valley Coal Chain Coordinator (HVCCC) facility in Broadmeadow. **Complete – Arranged for Community Meeting in August.**
  - Port Waratah were to consider limiting data presented in the Community Dashboard to the period presented. **Complete – considered and incorporated where feasible**
  - Port Waratah were to notify Community Stakeholders when final Community Survey Report and data became available on the CSIRO Local Voices website. **Complete – email sent on 21 December**
  - Port Waratah were to add the Community Survey onto the Feb 2019 Community Meeting Agenda and invite the CSIRO Project Leader to the Meeting. **Complete – Public Forum with CSIRO following Community Meeting**
  - Community Stakeholders were to share the Community Survey results amongst their networks and seek feedback on the results. **Complete**

## Item 2: Environment & Operations Update

### Proposed Themes for 2019

- TL led discussion on the proposed key themes for Port Waratah's Community Meetings in 2019. These were;
  - Feb 2019: Community Survey Results (This Meeting)
  - May 2019: 2018 Sustainable Development Report, held at the Kooragang Terminal
  - Aug 2019: Hunter Valley Coal Chain Coordinator Tour, held at HVCCC in Broadmeadow
  - Nov 2019: Carrington Storm Tanks Tour, held at the Carrington Terminal



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### Clean Up Events in 2019

- Trevor Thompson (TT) touched on the dates of the two planned clean up events Port Waratah were organising in 2019. The dates were;
  - Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March at 10:30am
  - Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> September
- Both events shall be held along Throsby Creek, either in the Mangrove area along Elizabeth St, or the Carrington Foreshore area. Both events shall be followed by a BBQ for the participants involved.
- The Meeting Group then discussed the data collection and whether there was any feedback that could be received on the amount of litter collected over time, or the water quality of Throsby Creek. Port Waratah agreed to follow this up with relevant Parties to determine what feedback could be obtained. At a minimum Port Waratah committed to share the results of the two clean up events. **ACTION for Port Waratah.**

### Community Dashboard

- TT continued and distributed a hardcopy version of the Q4 2018 Community Dashboard.
- TT described the amendments made to the Recycled Water Rates based of the feedback from the previous meeting.
- The Meeting Group discussed the impacts of ongoing drought/dry weather impacting upon general air quality in the region/state, and whether this impacts upon Port Waratah's ability to manage dust. The dry conditions have not impacted the performance of Port Waratah's dust management system, however it has meant water recycling rates are not as high as they have been under 'normal' rainfall conditions.
- Dust management is an increasingly important topic across the entire coal chain, with many mine sites located in areas of ongoing drought. Port Waratah advised the group that they engage with all coal chain partners regularly where topics including the importance of the appropriate dust management of coal transported to Port Waratah, are discussed.
- Katlijn Hullegie (KH) noted a Carrington noise result above Port Waratah's internal noise goal and asked for some further information on this. Port Waratah responded advising the methods on how the result was obtained, as well as a recap of the Carrington Conveyor Drive Strategy which has already seen an observed improvement in noise levels.
- Marinella Fragiacomio (MF) advised the group that she has noticed rail related noise was becoming more prevalent once again, particularly shunting. Port Waratah advised we can add contact details for ARTC in the Minutes for future reference, which may assist with addressing the noted noise concerns. **ACTION for Port Waratah.**
- Rick Banyard (RB) informed the group that the EPA appear to be placing a greater focus on the responsiveness of their Pollution Complaints Line, for a wider range of concerns particularly illegal dumping.
- TT advised Community Stakeholders that the Dashboard will be available on the Port Waratah website in the coming days, and that if they had further questions regarding the content of the Dashboard to contact him directly.

### Environmental Incidents

- Glenn Cook (GC) provided Community Stakeholders an overview of several recent incident that have occurred at Port Waratah:
  - November 2018: A small amount of coal was found on the wharf deck following an abnormal shiploader washdown at the Kooragang Wharf. Upon investigation it was apparent that some coal has also entered the harbour.
  - December 2018: A small volume of potable water containing coal fines spilled from a Carrington Shiploader and into the Harbour due to a valve being inadvertently left in the open position as the water lines were



connected. A designated shiploader watcher witnessed the spill commence and shut down the process immediately.

As a result of the above incidents a project team has been established to review and update shiploading procedures, engineering controls and the development of training and awareness packages for workers. Immediate corrective actions that have been implemented have so far proven to be effective.

- January 2019: A grass fire that commenced on Ash Island, spread onto Kooragang Island and burnt out a section of land owned by Port Waratah. Some embers also caused a small flare up on the western boundary of the Kooragang Terminal.

RB advised Community Stakeholders that this fire was discussed at the Newcastle Community Consultative Committee for the Environment (NCCCE), and that the grass fire had caused a sub-surface fire in some waste cells of the former BHP Steelworks. Port Waratah confirmed to the group that the sub-surface fire is adjacent to, however not on Port Waratah land, and is being managed by Port of Newcastle and Fire & Rescue NSW.

- February 2019: While conducting clean-up activities at the Kooragang Wharf following a shiploader washdown, some water containing coal fines entered a services pit and unknowingly flowed along a conduit that resulted in the water discharging to the Harbour.
- Each of the incidents detailed above were self-reported by Port Waratah to the EPA in accordance with Environment Protection Licence requirements.

### Item 3: Other Business

- TL advised the Meeting Group that Port Waratah had been in touch with Community Stakeholders who have not attended for some time. These Stakeholders have agreed to step down from the Community Meeting group, which opens the opportunity to invite some new Stakeholders to attend Community Meetings.
- TL asked Community Stakeholders that if they had any suggestions for new participants to let Port Waratah know.  
**ACTION** for Community Stakeholders

### Meeting Close

- The next Port Waratah Community Meeting is scheduled for:
  - Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019, at the Kooragang Coal Terminal.
- Meeting closed at 5:35pm

### CSIRO Public Forum

- Following the Port Waratah Community Meeting, Kieren Moffat (CSIRO Local Voices Project Leader) led a Public Forum to share the results of the 2018 'Local Voices' Community Survey. Further information on the Local Voices Community Survey can be found at;  
<https://research.csiro.au/portwaratahlocalvoices/>
- KM advised that the first six-monthly 'Pulse' Survey shall be launched on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.



INFORMATION/REPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY TO BE MADE TO:

Port Waratah (*coal terminal related enquiries*)

- Port Waratah 24hr Community Enquiry Line – 4907 2280
- Port Waratah email – [contact\\_us@pwcs.com.au](mailto:contact_us@pwcs.com.au)

NCIG (*coal terminal related enquiries*)

- 24hr Hotline – 1800 016 304
- NCIG Email – [enquiries@ncig.com.au](mailto:enquiries@ncig.com.au)

ARTC (*All rail and train related enquiries*)

- ARTC Enviro Line – 1300 550 402
- ARTC Email – [enviroline@artc.com.au](mailto:enviroline@artc.com.au)