

# Meeting minutes

## Southern Darling Downs Consultative Committee Meeting

### Date / Time

28 July 2020  
6.00pm to 8.30pm

### Location

Yelarbon & Districts Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Taloom St, Yelarbon

### Facilitator

Mr Graham Clapham (Chair)

### Minute taker

Ms Naomi Tonscheck – (ARTC  
Inland Rail)

### Distribution

All

### Attendees (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- ▶ Mr Graham Clapham, SDD Chair (Chair)
- ▶ Mr Brett Kelly, SDD member (BK)
- ▶ Mr Robert Barrett, SDD member (RB)
- ▶ Mr Justin Saunders, SDD member (JS)
- ▶ Mr Andrew McCartney, SDD member (AM)
- ▶ Ms Naomi Tonscheck (NT)
- ▶ Ms Sarah Delahunty (SD)
- ▶ Mr Scott Cobine (SC)
- ▶ Mr Jon Roberts – video (JR)
- ▶ Mr Jeff Chandler, SDD member (JC)
- ▶ Ms Georgina Kreig, SDD member (GK)
- ▶ Mrs Maria Oliver, SDD member (MO)
- ▶ Mr Kev Loveday, SDD member (KL)
- ▶ Ms Rosalie Millar, SDD member (RM)
- ▶ Mr Rob McNamara (RMc)
- ▶ Ms Helen Williams (HW)
- ▶ Mr Robert Smith – video (RS)
- ▶ Ms Fiona Kennedy – video (FK)

### Apologies (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- ▶ Mr Norm Chapman, SDD member

### Guests (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- ▶ Mr Gerald Schmidt, (Office of the Coordinator General)
- ▶ Ms Rebecca Collins, (Office of the Coordinator General)
- ▶ Ms Bec Kuhn, (Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications)
- ▶ Mr Chris Leslight
- ▶ Mr Steven Tarte, (Office of the Coordinator General)
- ▶ Mr Drue Edwards, (Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications)
- ▶ Mr James Lister (Member for the Southern Downs)

### Discussions

NO.	ACTIONS
	<b>Safety share</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ RMc presented a safety share on living and working in the COVID environment</li> </ul>
1	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ JS delivered a welcome to country</li> <li>▶ The Chair welcomed new and returning members of the committee and asked members               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ To introduce themselves and who they were representing on the committee;</li> <li>▶ If they accepted the Charter of the committee;</li> <li>▶ Declare any conflicts of interest that may exist;</li> <li>▶ What they wanted to achieve from sitting on the committee; and</li> <li>▶ If they were happy with the current meeting format and time.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

2	<p><b>Presentation from the Office of the Coordinator General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ ARTC were asked to leave the meeting and the Office of the Coordinator General (OCG) held an in-camera session with the members of the committee and observers</li> <li>▶ The OCG provided an update on the Environmental Impact Statement process and how to make a submission to the OCG in relation to the B2G project.</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Presentation from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Rebecca Kuhn, from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communication, provided the committee with an update on the Independent Flood Panel and forestry route review.</li> <li>▶ Ms Kuhn informed the committee the flood panel would review the models for 21 Queensland catchments and provide advice on how the models compare against national standards.</li> <li>▶ Ms Kuhn informed the committee that ARTC has been tasked with gathering data for the government in relation to the forestry route via Cecil Plains. This data will be used to assess the route against the project's service offering.</li> <li>▶ The Australian Government will appoint an independent consultant to review the data and provide a report to the government for consideration and decision. The Australian Government is still determining when and how information is shared with the community about the independent flood review and the forestry route review, however they are working on it as a matter of urgency.</li> <li>▶ Several questions were taken on notice by Ms Kuhn who will provide committee members with more information in the coming weeks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Why does it say in the website their review will be complete end of 2021?</li> <li>▶ How much involvement will ARTC have in the review?</li> <li>▶ Will the flood heights in Yelarbon be considered as part of the review, including impact on the existing levee?</li> <li>▶ Will the Macintyre River be included in the review?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Border to Gowrie (B2G) Project update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ RS provided a project overview and delivered an update on the progress of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Status of the Environmental Impact Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Adequacy assessment by the OCG – December 2019</li> <li>▶ Draft EIS submitted to OCG 24 July 2020</li> <li>▶ Next step – Public Exhibition</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ Upcoming field activities for B2G <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ LiDAR aerial surveys</li> <li>▶ Geotechnical campaign</li> <li>▶ Ecology surveys</li> <li>▶ Land boundary verification</li> <li>▶ Water asset surveys</li> <li>▶ Public exhibition of the EIS</li> <li>▶ 'Help your business stand out' training in Goondiwindi 6 August 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ Next steps for the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Market readiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Procurement strategy</li> <li>▶ Third party agreements</li> <li>▶ Environmental response and approvals</li> <li>▶ Early geotechnical works</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>North Star to Border (NS2B) Project update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ NT provided a project overview and delivered and update on the progress of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Macintyre flood model and EIS update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Implementation of regular hydrology working groups</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Engaged local flood specialists to verify modelling</li> <li>▶ Extended the flood model to include Goondiwindi township</li> <li>▶ Completed a cost comparison of proposed alignment and alternatives</li> <li>▶ Shared BMT independent review of the Macintyre flood model</li> <li>▶ Submitted NS2B EIS to Dept. of Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE) for adequacy review, May 2020</li> <li>▶ Ongoing work supporting Goondiwindi Regional Council facilitate an independent review of the Macintyre flood model</li> <li>▶ NS2B community update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Permanent office space located in the Goondiwindi Business Hub</li> <li>▶ Goondiwindi based stakeholder engagement adviser, Lauren Marer, started July 2020</li> <li>▶ NS2B public exhibition expected Q3/ Q4 2020</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Questions and discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ GK asked if the quantities of cut and fill could be expressed in square meterage rather than tonnes; and where material for fill would be sourced from. ARTC took this question on notice.</li> <li>▶ RM asked the quantity and sourcing of water for the project, and if this information would be included in the EIS.</li> <li>▶ FK responded that information would be included in the EIS, and had been presented to the CCC at the meeting in December 2019; information would be disseminated to the CCC again.</li> <li>▶ BK asked if ARTC could provide the horizontal alignment in a similar format to the vertical alignment, which had been supplied. ARTC to advise.</li> <li>▶ KL asked four questions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Where will the necessary material be sourced to build the embankments?</li> <li>▶ What will the material of choice be? Will it be gravel or soil and, if soil, what soil type and will this soil be "limed" with Hydrated Lime (Calcium Hydroxide)?</li> <li>▶ Will the embankments (particularly over Vertisol soil) be built on specially excavated and compacted foundations? If so, to what depth and width will the excavation be, and where will any removed soil be placed?</li> <li>▶ It would seem reasonable that the construction details ( viz width of base, compaction of embankment material, length of haulage from source to construction site, amount of water required, access roads for road transport of fill material , etc) would be an essential part of the EIS. This being the case, when were all these details planned to be released for public perusal?</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ RMc advised that construction of the project was not the remit of ARTC, but rather the successful contractor appointed to construct the alignment. As such, detail of the precise construction methods would be the remit of the contractor.</li> <li>▶ JR advised that the existing QR track, sleepers and ballast would be removed and levelled; to build a construction platform to enable the Contractor to install piles, piers and start construction of embankments and culverts.</li> <li>▶ KL asked for an alternative route through Yelarbon to be considered, to alleviate noise and vibration concerns of the residents. ARTC to consider and advise.</li> <li>▶ RW asked if the location of a workers' camp in Yelarbon had been finalised.</li> <li>▶ RMc advised that Yelarbon had been proposed as a suitable location for workers accommodation and had been included in the EIS – however the final decision regarding the location of workers accommodation would be made by the contractor appointed to construct the project.</li> <li>▶ JC asked if meetings with directly affected landowners could resume to discuss design and access points for their properties. ARTC to advise.</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>General business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Appointment to CCC</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The Chair advised that he had been approached by Mr Rick McDougall about participating in the CCC as a representative of the Inglewood area.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Mr McDougall is a former councillor of the Goondiwindi Regional Council; and long-standing resident of the community.</li> <li>▶ The committee voted to invite Mr McDougall to sit on the committee.</li>   <li>▶ <b>Community capacity building and skills development workshops</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ HW advised that skills development courses would be offered to communities as the project prepared for the construction phase.</li> <li>▶ MO asked what skills the workshops would be focusing on and what groups would be offering these courses?</li> <li>▶ HW advised there will be a focus on building skills relating to construction and rail operations. Additionally, Inland Rail will explore other skills such as Environmental Management, however this will be based on local requirements. Inland Rail has an memorandum of understanding with Construction Skills Queensland (CSQ) and are currently developing a number of programs focused on building construction skills. Inland Rail has been developing applications for the DESBT Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program. These are joint applications which are put in with local councils and community organisations. Partners for other skills are being explored and the CCC will be kept up to date as we get closer to construction.</li> <li>▶ JS addressed the committee regarding community capacity building projects that could create opportunities for all community members to obtain long term employment as a result of the proposal.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>▶ <b>Property acquisition</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ JC asked if property in the Inglewood area had been purchased by ARTC, as he had been asked this by a member of the public.</li> <li>▶ RMc stated that property had been purchased in the area under the early acquisition process. This process involved the landowner applying for acquisition ahead of the project approvals and was usually based on hardship grounds.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>▶ <b>Next meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The Chair asked for suggestions for the next meeting, likely to be held in October 2020.</li> <li>▶ KL suggested Goondiwindi as the next location.</li> <li>▶ The committee agreed on Goondiwindi for the next CCC meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Questions from observers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The Chair opened the meeting to questions from observers.</li> <li>▶ An observer commented on the question posed by KL on considering an alternative route through Yelarbon. She said that she did not believe the residents of Yelarbon were concerned about the location of the alignment or an increase in noise as there was already a rail line in Yelarbon and a major highway.</li> <li>▶ An observer made a comment about flooding across the Macintyre floodplain. The Chair referred the query to the North Star to Border project team.</li> <li>▶ <i>Meeting closed 8.30pm</i></li> </ul>

**Actions**

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY
1	DITRDC to provide update and respond to questions raised in discussion point 3	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development

		and Communications
2	ARTC to respond to questions raised in discussion point 4.	ARTC Inland Rail

**Next meeting**

To be advised