

# Meeting minutes

## Inner Darling Downs Consultative Committee Meeting

### Date / Time

2 February 2021  
6.00pm to 7.30pm

### Location

Wellcamp Airport terminal  
1511 Toowoomba -Cecil Plains Rd, Wellcamp

### Facilitator

Mr Bill Armagnacq (Chair) (BA)

### Minute taker

Katie Unipan – (ARTC Inland Rail) (KU)

### Distribution

All

### Attendees (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- ▶ Clinton Weber, Individual (CW)
- ▶ Gary Garland, Individual (GG)
- ▶ Ken Murphy, Individual (KM)
- ▶ Kylie Schultz, Individual (KS)
- ▶ Paul McDonald, Southern Queensland Landscapes (PM)
- ▶ Chris Joseph, Individual (CJ)
- ▶ Paul Hanlon, Individual (PH)
- ▶ Phoebe Mitchell, Individual (PM)
- ▶ Rob Loch, Pittsworth District Landcare Association (RL)
- ▶ Vicki Battaglia, Individual, (VB)
- ▶ Thomas Draper, Indigenous representative (TD)

### Apologies (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- ▶ Garth Hamilton MP, Member for Groom
- ▶ Todd Rohl, Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Lance MacManus, TSBE

### Guests (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- ▶ Ms Kathryn Chaffey, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
- ▶ Kathryn Silk, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
- ▶ Pat Weir MP – Member for Condamine
- ▶ Craig Sleeman and Trevor Mitchell, Toowoomba Regional Council (Online)
- ▶ Orren Farrington, Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy representative (Online)

### ARTC

- ▶ Rob McNamara (Project Director – North Star to Gowrie) (RM)
- ▶ Rob Smith (Project Manager) Online (RS)
- ▶ Andrew Roberts (Project Engineer) Online (AR)
- ▶ Ashley Williams (Indigenous Engagement Advisor) (AW)
- ▶ Sarah Delahunty (Manager Stakeholder Engagement QLD) (SD)
- ▶ Fiona Kennedy (Environmental Advisor) Online (FK)
- ▶ Naomi Tonscheck (Stakeholder Engagement Lead B2G & NS2B) (NT)

### Members of the public

A number of members of the public were in attendance.

## Discussions

NO.	ACTIONS																						
1	<p>Welcome, introductions and conflicts of interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ TD delivered an acknowledgement of Traditional Owners</li> <li>▶ Chair welcomed the committee.</li> <li>▶ Chair noted observers both those in the room and those online.</li> <li>▶ Chair noted that anyone asking questions should wait till a microphone is handed to them and mention their name</li> <li>▶ Chair noted the meeting was recorded for meeting minute purposes.</li> <li>▶ Chair welcomed Pat Weir MP.</li> <li>▶ The Chair noted the conflicts of interest register and committee to inform Chair of any changes or updates.</li> </ul> <p>No changes were advised.</p>																						
2	<p>Actions arising from previous meeting</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="236 824 1417 1747"> <thead> <tr> <th>No</th> <th>Actions</th> <th>Action By</th> <th>Due Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td> <p>Provide update on field trip</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Now out of the strict COVID restrictions can proceed with planning the field trip</li> <li>- Opportunity for CCC members only to travel the alignment on a bus with the Inland Rail team and discuss the reference design plans from Gowrie to Brookstead.</li> <li>- Will send email to committee re timing and preferences</li> </ul> </td> <td>CCC member</td> <td>Ongoing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td> <p>ARTC to advise of the acquiring authority for Inland Rail in Queensland - ARTC will inform members when there is a formal agreement/announcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Department of Transport and Main Roads has been confirmed as the acquiring authority.</li> <li>- More details will follow but initial letters to directly affected landowners will possibility be distributed in coming months</li> </ul> </td> <td>Inland Rail</td> <td>CLOSED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td> <p>CCC members to send Chair suggested agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No agenda items suggested</li> </ul> </td> <td>CCC members</td> <td>Next meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td> <p>ARTC to confirm if the detail design specifications will ever be publicly released and if so when in the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At this stage there is no intention to supply that detail as it would be considered Intellectual Property that forms part of the design and construction contract, warranties and appointments and is therefore classed as commercial in confidence</li> </ul> </td> <td>Inland Rail</td> <td>CLOSED</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>▶ VB: Note action missing from Page 8 of minutes: How is the track to be stabilised in the black soil, how much black soil is to be extracted and does ARTC have black soil mapped?</p>			No	Actions	Action By	Due Date	1	<p>Provide update on field trip</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Now out of the strict COVID restrictions can proceed with planning the field trip</li> <li>- Opportunity for CCC members only to travel the alignment on a bus with the Inland Rail team and discuss the reference design plans from Gowrie to Brookstead.</li> <li>- Will send email to committee re timing and preferences</li> </ul>	CCC member	Ongoing	2	<p>ARTC to advise of the acquiring authority for Inland Rail in Queensland - ARTC will inform members when there is a formal agreement/announcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Department of Transport and Main Roads has been confirmed as the acquiring authority.</li> <li>- More details will follow but initial letters to directly affected landowners will possibility be distributed in coming months</li> </ul>	Inland Rail	CLOSED	3	<p>CCC members to send Chair suggested agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No agenda items suggested</li> </ul>	CCC members	Next meeting	4	<p>ARTC to confirm if the detail design specifications will ever be publicly released and if so when in the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At this stage there is no intention to supply that detail as it would be considered Intellectual Property that forms part of the design and construction contract, warranties and appointments and is therefore classed as commercial in confidence</li> </ul>	Inland Rail	CLOSED
No	Actions	Action By	Due Date																				
1	<p>Provide update on field trip</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Now out of the strict COVID restrictions can proceed with planning the field trip</li> <li>- Opportunity for CCC members only to travel the alignment on a bus with the Inland Rail team and discuss the reference design plans from Gowrie to Brookstead.</li> <li>- Will send email to committee re timing and preferences</li> </ul>	CCC member	Ongoing																				
2	<p>ARTC to advise of the acquiring authority for Inland Rail in Queensland - ARTC will inform members when there is a formal agreement/announcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Department of Transport and Main Roads has been confirmed as the acquiring authority.</li> <li>- More details will follow but initial letters to directly affected landowners will possibility be distributed in coming months</li> </ul>	Inland Rail	CLOSED																				
3	<p>CCC members to send Chair suggested agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No agenda items suggested</li> </ul>	CCC members	Next meeting																				
4	<p>ARTC to confirm if the detail design specifications will ever be publicly released and if so when in the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At this stage there is no intention to supply that detail as it would be considered Intellectual Property that forms part of the design and construction contract, warranties and appointments and is therefore classed as commercial in confidence</li> </ul>	Inland Rail	CLOSED																				
3	<p><b>Project presentation – B2G Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Chair commented that this meeting’s agenda is quite short and does not get into the content of the EIS but focus on the EIS process and how to make a submission which is appropriate for this stage of the project.</li> </ul>																						

NO.	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ RS stated the intent of tonight's meeting is to recap on the EIS process and status and the next steps.</li> <li>▶ FK provided an overview of the B2G EIS process. She explained that the EIS approval process is administered by the Office of the Coordinator General (OCG) and not an ARTC created process.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coordinated Project declaration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FK commented we received 'Coordinated project' status under the <i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (SDPWO Act)</i>, triggering the requirement for an EIS document.</li> <li>▶ FK stated the Coordinator General (CG) coordinate the EIS approval. The CG works with advisory agencies, local government and other organisations to seek input into the EIS and post-EIS approvals, coordinates public submissions, prepares the final EIS evaluation report – rejecting or approving the project.</li> <li>▶ FK noted that the 'Coordinated Project' declaration does not imply government approval of, support for or commitment to a project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Approval process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FK commented that the EIS approval process is a 12-step process. This process is publicly available on the OCG's website at <a href="https://www.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/coordinator-general/assessments-and-approvals/coordinated-projects/the-coordinated-project-process">https://www.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/coordinator-general/assessments-and-approvals/coordinated-projects/the-coordinated-project-process</a>.</li> <li>▶ FK stated that steps 1 &amp; 2 included the project declaration stage and involved a pre-lodgement meeting and an application for declaration. The information submitted included an Initial Advice Statement (IAS) (specifying the high-level description of the proposed development and the environmental effects of the project), Project pre-feasibility and an overview of ARTC's capability to complete an EIS. She commented the IAS was accepted by the CG 2 March 2018.</li> <li>▶ FK said step 3 involves the CG declaring the project to be a Coordinated Project via notification in the Queensland Government Gazette and local newspapers, confirming the B2G project would require an EIS.</li> <li>▶ FK continued stating Step 4 involved ARTC preparing the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) that sets out matters that must be addressed in preparing the EIS. She commented the CG seeks feedback on the ToR from government agencies and the community between 7 May to 18 June 2018.</li> <li>▶ FK commented step 5 of the approval process involved the CG considering submissions from affected stakeholders. The final B2G EIS ToR was issued by CG 16 November 2018.</li> <li>▶ FK continued stating step 6 involved the preparation of the B2G EIS which took place between November 2018 to December 2020. She commented the draft EIS complies with the final ToR, CG's guidelines for preparing an EIS, CG's social impact assessment guidelines, the economic impact assessment guideline, and the guidelines/policies specified in Appendix 1 of the B2G ToR. FK continued stating the draft EIS was submitted to the OCG in December 2019 and the CG sought feedback from state and federal agencies on matters of interest or concern during 2020. ARTC received this feedback from OCG and updated the draft EIS as required.</li> <li>▶ FK continued stating we are now at step 7, the public release of the draft EIS document. She said the CG is satisfied the draft EIS meets the requirements of the ToR, CG guideline for an EIS and the draft EIS addresses the principal areas of advisory agency feedback. She continued stating the CG sets the EIS notification period and the CG has determined a period of 12 weeks from 23 January to 19 April 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions from the committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ VB Once feedback is received by the Coordinator General does it come back out for further consultation or is this the only chance the public get to have a say?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FK Will be determined by the Coordinator General. They will consider things like number of submissions received and input from other government agencies.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>What is an EIS and the timeline?</b></p>

NO.	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FK provided an overview of the EIS. FK commented it is the highest form of environmental assessment in Queensland. She said it provides a comprehensive description of the current environment, potential environmental, social and economic impacts of the project and ARTC's proposal to avoid, minimise and/or offset those potential impacts. She commented it included direct, indirect and cumulative impacts resulting from the different stages of the project.</li> <li>▶ FK commented the timeline is subject to the complexity of the project. She said the CG may ask for additional information, correction or clarifications, request ARTC complete additional studies and may request information on refinements of the project since the release of the draft EIS.</li> <li>▶ FK stated that once the EIS is accepted as final, the evaluation report on the project's EIS is released by OCG</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions from the committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ VB Question for committee. Given the size of the EIS and short timeframe would committee move to write to Coordinator General now and ask for extension                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ BA Chair noted normal period of 4 weeks already extended to 12 weeks. Chair confirmed committee was happy with motion and agreed to VB agreed to provide some wording for the email to the Coordinator General</li> <li>▶ SD suggested confirming voting numbers and how long extension period being requested</li> <li>▶ VB suggested a 1 month extension</li> <li>▶ BA called for committee vote, majority in favour</li> <li>▶ PM motion needs to be clear on reason and suggested that working full time was not a valid reason. Noted that period is 12 weeks unlike other projects which are shorter and shouldn't be asking for more than 3 – 4 weeks.</li> <li>▶ VB to provide dot points to Bill to circulate to committee</li> <li>▶ GG Will committee see before sending out</li> <li>▶ BA Yes will circulate before sending out</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Overview of public exhibition consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ KU provided an overview of the responsibilities during the EIS approval process for the OCG and ARTC. KU commented the OCG are responsible for:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ selecting the locations of the EIS displays,</li> <li>▶ where the public exhibition is advertised,</li> <li>▶ determining number of EIS copies that are required to be printed,</li> <li>▶ providing guidance on how to make comment on the EIS,</li> <li>▶ reviewing the submissions,</li> <li>▶ requesting ARTC response to submissions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>KU noted ARTC support this process by hosting information sessions, engaging with the community and developing collateral to support EIS public notification. KU said all these activities must be accepted by the OCG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ KU commented that the team have been contacting directly affected landowners to inform them of the EIS public notification period, that we have sent letters to the landowners in the study corridor and held meetings as required. ARTC is planning eight community information sessions, advertising on social media, continuing the community outreach program each week either in Pittsworth or Millmerran, planning to attend local shows, distributing the USBs to libraries and has developed the summary of findings to support the EIS public notification period. KU continued stating the directly affected landowners were sent a copy of the OCG's 'Have your say' fact sheet and a reply-paid envelope to help them place a submission. She said ARTC have also catered for low literacy and translation requirements.</li> <li>▶ KU spoke about the EIS community information sessions and asked the committee members to put the posters up in their local communities.</li> <li>▶ KU spoke about the EIS document stating there are 25 chapters, 26 appendices totalling approximately 14,000 pages. She provided an overview on anticipated EIS submission topics including hydrology, alignment selection etc.</li> </ul>

NO.	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ KU provided an overview on how to submit a 'properly made' submission and spoke to the OCG's 'Have your say' factsheet.</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions from the committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ VB noted that with Pittsworth Sentinel now closed has ARTC considered a letterbox drop in Pittsworth and Oakey.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ KU Will take suggestion back and consider but also noted that ARTC were not given a lot of lead time to book promotional activity and encourage the CCC members to assist in ensure message is communicated through their communities.</li> <li>▶ VB Is that a question for ARTC or Coordinator General</li> <li>▶ SD Yes can add activities but will advise OCG</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ RL noted while important for people to have their say but what will come out of the Coordinator General review will be conditions on the project. When putting in a submission consider what aspects of the project will impact your lives, property and environment and what conditions should be laid on ARTCs approval.</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>General Business</b></p> <p><b>OCG presentation to the CCCs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The Chair spoke to the committee and sought feedback on holding a closed meeting with the Southern Darling Downs (SDD) CCC members to discuss the EIS approval process on the 25 February 2021 in Millmerran at 6.00pm.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ TMR have indicated they may like to address the committee so we will possibly extend an invitation to them to also address this meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed seminar on land acquisition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The Chair provided an update on the SDD and IDD Chairs' conversation with the proposed specialists who would provide taxation, accounting, legal and property valuation advice to the landowners, and sought feedback from the committee. The Chair stated the proposed specialists would be prepared to speak to the directly affected landowners in detail about the compulsory acquisition process.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The Chair noted that letters from TMR / /Inland Rail are likely to go out soon.</li> <li>▶ Session will be for committee members and any community member who is directly impacted by acquisition process.</li> <li>▶ VB With TMR session will it be limited to acquisition process?</li> <li>▶ BA Yes about land acquisition process</li> <li>▶ The Chair commented that ARTC would support the logistics of the meeting but not participate.</li> <li>▶ PM Is timeframe based on committee availability?</li> <li>▶ BA based on timeline of letters from TMR</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ VB With the detail in the EIS where do we go to get answers, for example more on the Koala Strategy?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FK Flora and Fauna chapter in EIS and number of technical appendices which address these.</li> <li>▶ KU You need to continue to send these direct through to myself for response</li> <li>▶ BA Encourage to take RL suggestions about conditions should be considered when making submissions on EIS</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ VB Interface program isn't in EIS and causing community concern, is it available and how do we get it               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FK Projects considered are in the accumulated impacts chapter. Anything specific contact Katie and we will respond to.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ VB What happens if the Senate enquiry and flood review determine the project should not proceed</li> </ul>

NO.	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ RM Not a decision for ARTC to make. The Coordinator General will consider that on behalf of the federal government.</li> <li>▶ Next meeting</li> <li>▶ GK suggested Brookstead. Committee agreed the next meeting would be held in Brookstead. Date yet to be confirmed but will be prior to the end of the EIS public notification period.</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Questions from observers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Question from community member: Why would you place yourself out the front of Pittsworth and not something more quiet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ SD Outreach sessions are based on community feedback and not based on EIS specific.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ Question from community member: A community member has been told the destination has been changed from Brisbane to Gladstone. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ SD The EIS does not address Gladstone and not relevant to this conversation</li> <li>▶ BA The issue of coal is also covered in the EIS. Whilst I have only read executive summary it does say there is currently no coal planned for the line but that may change and would be subject to separate management plans at that time</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ Question from community member: Landowner claimed that he has written many unanswered letters so your community engagement does leave questions to be desired? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ SD If someone here feels this way please direct them towards me to ensure addressed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ Question from community member: Currently on the proposed interface line and cannot get any answers of exactly where it is going. People need to know at the same time as Inland Rail.</li> <li>▶ Question from community member: The joint meeting should also cover the interface and invite Queensland Rail</li> <li>▶ Question from community member: Noted a lot of koala research has been undertaken by community and mapping done which doesn't match what is shown in EIS. Did Inland Rail conduct on the ground studies or just desktop? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ FK: Inland Rail did a combination of desktop and field studies, as well as obtaining habitat studies through the Australian Koala Foundation.</li> <li>▶ Community member: Can we get exact location of where Inland Rail did studies?</li> <li>▶ FK Details available in EIS of areas surveyed though if this isn't clear go through Katie Unipan and we will clarify further.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ PM Have had a lot of members if the Gowrie Mountain community come to her with no real idea where the track will be. Can we have a definitive map. Also want to know how we plan to address line coming across Brimblecomb Road and the floodplain through there. PM offered to provide to next meeting flood photos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ SD Encourage anyone not sure of route to reach out as the maps have been out for some time. Encourage any new information like photos should now form submissions through EIS</li> <li>▶ FK Alignment drawing are shown in project description in EIS. And have also included alignment drawing in volume three.</li> <li>▶ RS Grab some USBs with the EIS and share them with community if they are needing more information</li> <li>▶ PM Would like previous minutes corrected to note Gowrie Mountain not Gowrie Junction. Also concerned that this community are not being consulted with</li> <li>▶ SD Will ensure minutes corrected and will reach out to ensure we engage with community there</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ VB In the EIS there are several maps that don't match up which may be from a timing perspective as the EIS has taken many years to produce but it does cause confusion. VB community are exhausted. The detail in EIS is not going to meet community needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ SD Coordinator General have informed everyone that submissions don't need to be technical.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ CJ Involved with many EIS over the years and very important that they are clear and concise.</li> <li>▶ PH Do ARTC use Facebook</li> </ul>

NO.	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ KU: Inland Rail is using targeted social media campaign</li> <li>▶ TD How many cultural heritage sites have been surveyed and is everything up to date</li> <li>▶ FK ARTC have been engaging with the three traditional owner groups and have cultural heritage plans in place. Cultural heritage surveys are ongoing pending land access agreements though have faced some timing challenges with COVID, 35 – 40% of project area surveyed to date</li> <li>▶ Question from community member: Is European heritage considered in the EIS</li> <li>▶ FK Yes</li> </ul>
	<p>Conclusion and confirmation of actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Next meeting will be the joint meeting with the OCG on the 25 February 2021 in Millmerran at 6.00pm.</li> <li>▶ Future open meeting of committee will be pending feedback from the committee and period of exhibition</li> <li>▶ Will be seeking feedback on bus trip through email.</li> </ul> <p>Meeting closed 7.15pm</p>

### Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY
1	Chair to write to Coordinator General to request a one month extension on the public exhibition period of the B2G EIS	Chair
2	The Chair to continue to coordinate the property acquisition seminar.	Chair
3	ARTC to confirm how is the track to be stabilised in the black soil, how much black soil is to be extracted and what black soils have been mapped?	ARTC Inland Rail
4	Plan CCC member bus trip of alignment from Brookstead to Gowrie	ARTC Inland Rail

### Next meeting

To be advised

Interim meeting with OCG 6pm on the 25 February 2021