

Chair's Summary

Southern Darling Downs Community Consultative Committee

The Southern Darling Downs Community Consultative Committee (the committee) met in person at the Inglewood Civic Centre on **Thursday 17 March 2022**.

This summary provides an overview of the meeting and ensures information is shared with the community at the earliest opportunity. It is a precursor to the formal meeting record, the committee meeting minutes, which will be published on the Inland Rail website following preparation and endorsement by the committee and Chair.

The meeting was chaired by Graham Clapham and attended by five of the 11 members. Six members tendered an apology. The meeting was also observed by representatives from federal and local government agencies, as well as four interested community members.

The meeting included a general update on the Border to Gowrie project, including details on land access, an update on Independent International Panel of Experts for Flood Studies investigation works and ongoing engagement activities. An update was also provided on the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including the Office of the Coordinator-General's Request for Information, additional works being completed and reference design changes that will be included in the revised draft EIS.

BHQ Joint Venture, the Northern Civil Works Program preferred proponent and Freight Connect, the Central Civil Works Program preferred proponent, introduced their respective joint ventures and what to expect during the next 12 months.

Committee members and observers had the opportunity to ask questions of the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC). Questions included timing for the revised draft EIS, further detail on proposed changes to the reference design and business opportunities following the appointment of civil works contractors.

The next meeting is currently scheduled to be held in Yelarbon in June or July 2022. It will include a presentation on constructability on black soils and an update on koala investigations. Details will be shared closer to the date to ensure those who would like to attend have that opportunity.

Mr Graham Clapham
Chair, Southern Darling Downs
Community Consultative Committee