

MEETING MINUTES

A2I Inland Rail Albury to Illabo

Wagga Wagga Sub-Committee

Community Consultative Committee

DATE / TIME

23 August 2023

2.000pm

LOCATION

Wagga Wagga City Library

FACILITATOR

Garry West

MINUTE TAKER

Garry West

DISTRIBUTION

Albury to Illabo CCC

ATTENDEES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ Garry West (Independent Chair)
- ▶ Rorey McKenzie (Community Representative)
- ▶ Cr Pam Halliburton (Junee Shire Council Representative)
- ▶ Mark Cunningham (Community Representative)
- ▶ Roslyn Prangnell (Urban Landcare)
- ▶ Peter Veneris (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Melvyn Maylin (A2P Project Director)
- ▶ Casey Bootsma (Stakeholder Engagement Lead A2I)
- ▶ Wayne Window (Environmental Manager NSW & VIC)
- ▶ Andrew Garratt (Stakeholder Engagement Manager A2P)
- ▶ Zoe Cox (Environment Advisor A2I)
- ▶ Alana Leslie (Senior Communications Advisor)

APOLOGIES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ John Zannes (Project Manager, Inland Rail, Transport for NSW)
- ▶ Nicole Maher (Murrumbidgee Landcare)
- ▶ David Carter (Community Representative)
- ▶ Cr Greg Verdon (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Luke Tabener (Acting General Manager, Junee Shire Council)

GUESTS (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ Clarissa Farrington (A/g Director – Inland Rail Program Assurance – Commonwealth Infrastructure Projects Division)
- ▶ Gavin Murphy (General Manager Major Projects, Martinus Rail)

- ▶ Stuart Davies (Project Manager, Martinus Rail)
- ▶ Matt Kelly (Hayes Recruitment)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1. Welcome & Introductions	<p>The Chair opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country. The Chair sought agreement for him to record the meeting for the purpose of preparing minutes. No objections. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and introduced new representatives from Inland Rail and Martinus Rail. Mr West agreed for Allan Parker from the Wagga Wagga Ratepayers Association to attend as an Observer.</p>
2. Declarations of Interest	<p>No new declarations</p>
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting	<p>It was noted and agreed that the minutes of 27 July 2022 were approved and uploaded to the project website. The actions have been completed.</p>
5. Proponent's Reports	<p>Melvyn Maylin (A2I Project Director) Referred to the Inland Rail review and the implications for Albury to Illabo. The Review findings were released on 6 April 2023 and the Australian Government agreed to the 19 recommendations in full or in principle. In line with the Government's response Inland Rail Pty Ltd was established as a subsidiary of ARTC with its own board to govern the delivery of the the Inland rail project effective 1 July 2023.</p> <p>The Review gave a clear message that construction south of Parkes was to be prioritised and that is now funded. Whilst the overall route has been confirmed there will be no new construction north of Parkes, however some existing work will be finished. Therefore, the completion of the project will be delayed.</p> <p>The Wagga Wagga bypass is not in the current scope, however as train volumes grow, that is over a 10-15-year horizon, and full implementation of Inland Rail, further consideration will be undertaken then by the State Government. It has become clear that there will be no immediate uplift in train numbers, thereby minimising the impacts.</p>

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	<p>Following the exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) last year final approvals are now being sought for the A2I section. The Department of Planning has requested the preparation of a Preferred Infrastructure Report (PIR). It is expected this report will be placed on public exhibition in the second half of November 2023.</p> <p>Master Inland Rail Development Agreements (MIRDAs) have now been signed by all Councils along the alignment.</p> <p>The construction contract has been awarded to Martinus Rail for the A2I and S2P projects. All the approvals and land ownership are in place for the Stockinbingal to Parkes (S2P) section and construction can commence as soon possible after secondary approvals are in place. Major construction on the A2I section cannot commence until all NSW government environmental approvals are received. These are expected in Q2 2024 (possibly late May).</p> <p>Utility relocation works commenced in December 2022 and are ongoing.</p> <p>The Project completion is scheduled for mid-2027.</p> <p>Gavin Murphy (General Manager – Major Projects, Martinus Rail) Gavin provided an overview of Martinus Rail which is an Australian owned family operated rail construction company, which has been in the industry for 16 years with 1200+ employees across 16 locations both across Australia and overseas. Martinus are committed to supporting local business in the areas they work. The works program for A2I includes undertaking site investigation works, including site surveys and Geotech works; investigating office facilities with a view to establishing an office in mid-2024; and commence a procurement process for various local supplier contracts to commence in mid-2024 when construction is expected to commence. Plan to continue community-based presence as the project proceeds.</p> <p>Wayne Window (Environmental Manager NSW & Victoria) Wayne provided a review of the pathway to approval which includes preparing the Response to Submissions (RtS), the Preferred Infrastructure Report (PIR) as well as resolving any remaining matters from the assessment process and negotiating conditions.</p> <p>As a result of the EIS public exhibition 134 submissions were received from members of the public, about 88% were from the Wagga Wagga</p>

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	<p>postcode which reflected the messages on issues during the EIS preparation. 8 other community and representative groups made submissions as well as 3 Local councils and 10 from NSW Government departments and agencies who provide advice on projects.</p> <p>The top key issues raised were: EIS assessment and procedural matters (15%), Noise and vibration (13%), Transport- Wagga Wagga Bypass (12%) and Social impacts (10%).</p> <p>An analysis of the matters raised by area include:</p> <p>Junee: Operational noise and vibration; amenity impacts; property values; Incorporation of community concerns in the development of the proposal; disruption to rail business during construction.</p> <p>Wagga Wagga: Alternative route options; safety and accessibility impacts due to road bridge design; consultation prior to the EIS being placed on public exhibition; impacts beyond enhancement sites; impacts on the road network; bridge closures and delay at level crossings; operational rail noise and vibration impacts; mitigation and management of noise and vibration; operational air quality impacts; and evaluation and justification of the proposal.</p> <p>Lockhart – Greater Hume: Operational noise and vibration impacts; consultation to enable understanding of impacts and mitigation; amenity, health and socio-economic impacts; property values; operational impacts of level crossing closures and delays.</p> <p>Other communities see presentation.</p> <p>The Preferred Infrastructure Report (PIR) is required to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • train numbers: ie. clarification of numbers across the network, likely timing of uplift of train numbers, track speeds; and • traffic and transport: more detailed analysis of construction phase impacts on traffic and pedestrians; operational impact from changes in level crossing closures; safety assessments; and • operational noise: modelling operational rail noise along entire alignment; identifying project impacts and mitigation options, including timing and extent of mitigations proposed, for example noise walls, fencing or treatment at receiver; does it have to be done now or in the future; and

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • air quality: EPA has requested a review of potential changes to locomotive emissions linked to typical operational scenarios to guide licences to train operators and locomotives: and • hydrology: review possible impacts due to track lifts in 4 locations as well as revising modelling using completed Council models for validation; and • Heritage impacts: Heritage NSW has asked for a more detailed explanation of the heritage aspects in the Albury Yard, the relationship of the Albury Station Bridge with the Signal Hut and the station remains at Yerong Creek; and • Pedestrian Bridges and Urban Design: DPE is seeking more detail on DDA accessibility outcomes, bridge integration into the townscape. <p>Casey Bootsma (Stakeholder Engagement Lead, A2I) Casey outlined the ongoing engagement with the community, including property requirements and managing these with landowners and finalising 3rd party agreements with Councils.</p> <p>The next 3 months will see ongoing council staff workshops, briefings with Members of Parliament, CCC Councillors and community organisations. In November the PIR and the RtS reports will be available on the DPE website. A link will be provided at that time.</p> <p>The sponsorship and donations program and details of recent were outlined and available in the presentation. Next round for applications closes 31 October 2023.</p> <p>The social performance team have been working on community capacity building through the Inland Rail Skills Academy.</p> <p>Clontarf Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 young men from the Wagga Wagga Academy completed White card training early August • White Card training for the Albury Academy occurred on 22 August <p>Certificate II in Rail Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 week course – Albury • 4 days per week (3 days theory and 1 day practical) • 7 participants graduated on 10 August (all First Nations people)

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	<p>Looking Forward – Wagga Wagga</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certificate II courses now proposed in Wagga Wagga. <p>The Supplier capability development program commenced in Wagga Wagga on 25 July 2023 with 21 local businesses and 9 indigenous businesses register and attending the first supplier capability workshop. A workshop was also held in Albury with 24 local businesses and 3 indigenous businesses attending. The program will run over a nine-month period designed to help regional businesses understand how to engage with buyers, prepare compliant tender submissions, and manage contracts for work on major projects and within regional supply chains. The program will be delivered across five workshops with one-to-one mentoring support available. These workshops will be delivered in Albury, Wagga Wagga and Forbes/Parkes.</p>
6.General Business	NIL

Next Meeting

18 October 2023