

# MEETING MINUTES

Inland Rail - Albury to Illabo (A2I)  
Community Consultative Committee  
Albury Sub-Committee

**DATE / TIME**

20 May 2026  
9:00am

**LOCATION**

Enterprise Plus Business Hub  
575 Olive St, Albury NSW 2640

**FACILITATOR**

Mr Garry West

**MINUTE TAKER**

Mr Garry West

**DISTRIBUTION**

Albury to Illabo CCC

**ATTENDEES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT INLAND RAIL)**

- ▶ Mr Garry West (Independent Chair) (GW)
- ▶ Mr Les Fraser (Culcairn Community Development Committee)
- ▶ Mr Glen Robinson (Albury Business Connect – Alternate)
- ▶ Mr Bill McDonnell (NSW Farmers)
- ▶ Cr Kevin Mack (Albury City Council)
- ▶ Mr David Christy (Albury City Council)
- ▶ Ms Karenne Dugan (Gerogery community member)
- ▶ Mr Michael Oliver (Greater Hume Council)
- ▶ Ms Kellie Penfold (Henty Development Committee)
- ▶ Mr Malcolm Clark (Project Director – A2I / S2P)
- ▶ Ms Susan Kay (Principal Environmental Advisor) (SK)
- ▶ Ms Kate Hardy (Stakeholder Engagement Lead - A2I) (KH)
- ▶ Mr Brent Fewkes (Social Performance Principal) (BF)
- ▶ Mr Trumaine Warcon (Senior First Nations Engagement Advisor A2P) (TW)

**APOLOGIES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT INLAND RAIL)**

- ▶ Mr Dennis Toohey (Border Rail Action Committee)
- ▶ Mr Daniel Tidey (Albury Business Connect)
- ▶ Ms Clarissa Farrington (Director, Inland Rail Program Assurance, Commonwealth Infrastructure Projects Division, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts) (CF)
- ▶ Mr John Zannes (Director, Inland Rail, Transport for NSW)

## Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
<b>1. Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	<p>The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all to the meeting. The Chair sought agreement for him to record the meeting for the purpose of preparing minutes. No objections.</p>
<b>2. Apologies</b>	<p>As Above</p>
<b>3. Declarations of Interest</b>	<p>No new declarations</p>
<b>4. Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	<p>It was noted and agreed that the minutes of 4 February 2026 were approved and uploaded to the project website.</p>
<b>5. Actions from previous minutes</b>	<p>NIL</p>
<b>6. Proponent's Reports</b>	<p><b>Mr Malcolm Clark (Project Director – S2P/A2I) Program and Project Update</b></p> <p>Mr Clark provided an update on activities for the adjacent projects of Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S) and Stockinbingal to Parkes (S2P). Refer to presentation</p> <p><b><u>Albury to Illabo (A2I) Project Update</u></b></p> <p>Mr Clark confirmed Inland Rail will deliver Albury to Parkes ready for double-stacked operations by the end of 2027 with approved project works to continue as planned.</p> <p>Mr West noted a copy of the Minister's media release will be attached to these minutes.</p> <p>Mr Clark provided an update on the works that were carried out during the 96-hour possession held in May 2026. Refer to presentation.</p> <p><b>A2I Program</b></p> <p>An outline of all the major construction activities across the A2I alignment was shown as well as a series of photos of the works undertaken during the May possession.</p> <p><b><u>Culcairn Footbridge</u></b></p> <p>An update on the Culcairn footbridge was provided. Refer to presentation</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p><b>Looking ahead</b></p> <p>A look ahead for the A2I project was provided by Mr Clark. Refer to presentation</p> <p>Mr Michael Oliver drew attention to a potential conflict of the September possession period with the Henty Field Days. Noted</p> <p>Mr Michael Oliver also raised a question on the colour red on the Murray Bridge top chords. The team advised the colour of the new chords is Bulrush and the description and reason for colour selection was in the Heritage Interpretation Plan (HIP) . Mr Clark explained red and green colours are prohibited on structures within the rail corridor and that the specific colour was approved by the operator, ARTC.</p> <p>Cr Kevin Mack asked a question about whether there have been further discussions about the vacant land adjacent to the carpark at the Albury Station with ARTC. Mr Clark advised he wasn't up to date with the latest situation on this area. An action was taken to request an update from ARTC. [ACTION]</p> <p><b>Ms Susan Kay (Principal Environment Advisor)</b></p> <p>Ms Kay reported that Stage C construction has commenced along with monitoring and reporting.</p> <p>Ms Kay also provided an overview on the Operational Air Quality program for A2I and the frog surveys which were recently conducted in the Albury area.</p> <p>Refer to presentation</p> <p>Additionally, Ms Kay advised the group that discussions have been undertaken with Albury City Council to explore the opportunity to create a Sloane's Froglet habitat on council land at the Billy Hughes site. A site walk with council is proposed for next month.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p><b>Ms Kate Hardy (Stakeholder Engagement Lead A2I) - Community Engagement Update</b>                      Ms Hardy reported on the engagement activity carried out during March to May 2026 as well as the upcoming planned engagement activities. Refer to presentation</p> <p>Mr Michael Oliver advised that he is the Chair of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) for the Greater Hume/Albury area and congratulated Martinus on their recent presentation to the group. The information was informative and enabled services to be prepared in the event of an emergency while any changes are taking place during construction on the project.</p> <p><b>Mr Brent Fewkes (Social Performance Principal) – Social Performance Program Overview</b>                      Mr Fewkes opened by explaining what the social performance focus is on. It is to provide a socially beneficial program. The focus areas are career engagement, business capability and workforce development. The grants are also part of the reach to different communities. Mr Fewkes provided an overview of what is involved in the social performance program including the community benefits flowing from the A2I and S2P projects July 2023 – March 2026. (Refer to presentation).</p> <p>Mr Fewkes as spoke to the presentation for the Inland Rail Skills Academy for the Albury and Greater Hume LGA’s from 2019 to March 2026 and provided an overview of the categories and the achievements.</p> <p><b>Mr Trumaine Warcon (Senior First Nations Engagement Advisor)</b> provided an overview of the Clontarf Leader Camp in Albury which supported the Koorungal High School, Mt Austin High School and James Fallon High School and the upcoming launch of the A2I First Nations Corridor Wide Artwork by Luke Penrith.</p> <p>Mr Les Fraser observed his son was an employee of the Clontarf organisation and noted their efforts in helping First Nations students.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
<b>7. General Business &amp; Community Feedback</b>	<p>Ms Kellie Penfold advised since the Government announcement on the future of the Inland Rail project she had received community feedback indicating there won't be any double-stacked trains now in their area. Ms Penfold then asked if new modelling is now required as a result of there being less rail traffic? Mr Clark advised that this is currently being confirmed with ARTC and DPFI and that any changes will require new modelling to be carried out in the coming months. Operationally, IRPL is still expecting activity from Beveridge through to Parkes and potentially through to Western Australia to occur. Timeframe for modelling consultation is still to be determined. Ms Hardy advised impacted residents will be advised when the new consultation activity will commence.</p> <p>Mr Bill McDonnell asked what happens if the current or future governments decide to recommence the program. Mr Clark and Ms Kay advised that compliance monitoring will still be occurring with or without the program changing. A2I and I2S projects will both be completed.</p> <p>Mr David Christy asked if Albury was considered for the air quality monitoring activity. Ms Kay indicated the availability of power was a factor, however results will be applicable in numerous locations.</p> <p>Mr Les Fraser indicated there are several houses on the northern side of Culcairn where the residents are concerned about trains stopping there and idling. There is a crossing loop near Culcairn, will there be double-stacked trains sitting there idling waiting for another train to come through? Mr Clark advised this is unlikely to be affected, particularly for the next couple of years as the loop is not "booked into use" for that activity. It is however possible in the future.</p> <p>Ms Kellie Penfold asked what would happen if Graincorp decided double-stacked containers was a more efficient method would that involve another set of planning at Henty? Mr Clark advised that such a possibility would come into the 10 year monitoring that is part of the current consent conditions.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
<p><b>8. Conclusion</b></p>	<p>Ms Hardy indicated a question arising from councillor briefings is how upcoming works are advised to the community. Works notifications are sent out by Martinus to the immediately impacted residents. Door knocking is used where required and the notification is also on the project website. In some cases, social media and/or print media are also deployed in the communications. Works notifications are also shared with Councils to also use on their existing communication platforms to assist in circulating the communication.</p> <p>Ms Clarissa Farrington advised via email prior to the meeting if any CCC member has a question regarding the Government's announcement they can raise them through the Chair and she will endeavour to get answers.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 10.15am</p>

## Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Clarification of the discussions with ARTC regarding the future of land at the Albury Station carpark	MC	Next Meeting

## Next Meeting

**5 August 2026**

# Community Benefits

Inland Rail is a national project with local benefits, generating jobs and economic opportunities for our regions and communities right across Australia.



## Albury to Illabo/ Stockinbingal to Parkes

July 2023 to March 2026



# Inland Rail Skills Academy

2019 – March 2026 Albury LGA



## INLAND RAIL

We invest in Inland Rail alignment communities by partnering with experts to grow a local supply of businesses and future workers equipped for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



### STEM PARTNERSHIPS

**15** Events held

**7** Schools involved

**> 2687**

Students engaged in STEM activities

**5%** of whom are First Nations People

**49%** of whom are Female

**139** Teachers attended



### UPSKILLING LOCAL BUSINESSES

**6** Supplier Capability Workshops held

**0** Mentoring sessions held

**108** Businesses upskilled to work on a major project

**2%** First Nations businesses

**1** "Meet the Contractor" events held

**77** Businesses attending



### SKILLS TRAINING

**79** Work ready individuals

**5** Completed Training Competencies

**63** of whom are First Nations People

of whom are Female **21**

**16** Workers received training on project

**8** Apprentices/ Trainees engaged



### COMMUNITY GRANTS

**19** Local community grants approved

**\$68K** Cash contributions



### PROJECT WORKFORCE

**94** Total workforce from LGA

**0** Sustainable Jobs

**38** Workers in trades

**2** First Nations workers

**7** Female workers

**14** Young Workers (Under 25)



### PROJECT PROCUREMENT

**36**

Businesses who have worked on the project

**1** First Nations Businesses

**\$10.7M**

Total spend on local businesses

# Inland Rail Skills Academy

2019 – March 2025 Greater Hume Shire LGA



# INLAND RAIL

We invest in Inland Rail alignment communities by partnering with experts to grow a local supply of businesses and future workers equipped for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



## STEM PARTNERSHIPS

1 Events held

1 Schools involved

79 Students engaged in STEM activities

11% of whom are First Nations People

47% of whom are Female

12 Teachers attended



## UPSKILLING LOCAL BUSINESSES

0 Supplier Capability Workshops held

0 Mentoring sessions held

0 Businesses upskilled to work on a major project

0% First Nations businesses

0 "Meet the Contractor" events held

0 Businesses attending



## SKILLS TRAINING

0 Work ready individuals

0 Completed Training Competencies

0 of whom are First Nations People

0 of whom are Female

4 Workers received training on project

1 Apprentices/ Trainees engaged



## COMMUNITY GRANTS

9 Local community grants approved

\$26K Cash contributions



## PROJECT WORKFORCE

15 Total workforce from LGA

5 Sustainable Jobs

3 Workers in trades

1 First Nations workers

2 Female workers

1 Young Workers (Under 25)



## PROJECT PROCUREMENT

4 Businesses who have worked on the project

0 First Nations Businesses

\$285K Total spend on local businesses