

Mackay Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5.30pm Wednesday 6 November 2019

Chair:

NQBP CEO Nicolas Fertin

Attendees:

<p>Community Representatives Charlie Camilleri Neville Duncan Edan Stolberg Di Hatfield Elizabeth Warren Michael DePinto</p> <p>Aboriginal Party Representative Deb Netuschil</p> <p>Recreational Group Representative Alison Jones</p> <p>Business Representative N/A</p>	<p>Port Industry Representative Viva Energy – Rachael Haycock GAC Shipping – Justin Durant</p> <p>Mackay Regional Council Representative N/A</p> <p>NQBP Representatives Amanda Blines Tim Lewis Kevin Kane Emilie Power</p> <p>Guests Anthony Lee (NQBP)</p>
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Apologies:

Mackay Regional Council representative: Justin Englert

NQBP representative: Brendan Webb

Port Industry representative: Viva Energy – Dave Mann

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Meeting open and apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Reference Group members were welcomed by NQBP CEO and Chair Nicolas Fertin. • A Welcome to Country was delivered by Yuwibara traditional descendant Deb Netuschil. • Chair acknowledged apologies received from Brendan Webb. • Welcome to guest Anthony Lee (NQBP). <p>No conflicts of interest declared.</p>	
2. CRG Correspondence, Questions and Actions Register	<p>CRG correspondence and questions received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question – When will the port /State be issuing a long-term port plan and when will public comment will be available? • Response – <i>Department of Transport and Main Roads is responsible for preparing Port Master Plans. We anticipate that DTMR will start progressing the Mackay Master Plan in 2021 and public consultation will be undertaken as part of this. NQBP is currently gearing up for the preparation of a new Port of Mackay Land Use Plan in 2020. It is currently anticipated that stakeholder consultation on the Statement of Proposals and Draft Land Use Plan will occur in 2020.</i> • Question – Why are some vessels noisier than others? • Response - <i>Several factors impact noise – this includes the age, design and size of the ship, the cargo it’s transporting (i.e. loading, unloading), meteorological conditions (i.e. wind, for example when it’s calm noise travels further). NQBP actively works with shipping agents to identify noisy ships and puts in minimisation measures where possible.</i> • Comment – Appreciation for fencing the sand dunes along East Point Road. <p>Actions register update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the actions from the last meeting have been completed. Refer to Actions Items Register for details. 	<p>Open items remaining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP to consider art project for Southern Breakwater. • NQBP to consider marking length of breakwater for public exercise. • ACTION – NQBP to follow up invite with DTMR to discuss Ring Road project. • ACTION – NQBP to consider installation of a new sign at the Southern Breakwater.

<p>3. NQBP Overview</p>	<p>Presented by Chair Nicolas Fertin</p> <p>Highlights from 2018/19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report for 2018/19 financial year has been published. CRG members all received a hard copy. <p>Proposed changes to terms of reference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No objections raised to any of the proposed changes to the terms of reference. • Acknowledged Jack McDougall's resignation from the CRG. <p>CRG annual evaluation survey results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparison of data shown from last CRG survey completed in 2017 and most recent survey conducted in 2019. Results of CRG survey shows improvements in most areas, with the overall sentiment being very positive. 	
<p>4. NQBP Operations</p>	<p>Presented by Chair Nicolas Fertin</p> <p>Met coal seaborne trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data presented on % of NQBP imports vs % of other imports of Met coal. • Question – How does NQBP make its profits, and how are these profits distributed throughout the community? • Response – <i>We will bring this topic back to the CRG at the next meeting</i> <p>Trade throughput overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data presented on trade throughput for 2018/19 for each for NQBP's ports by commodity, by industry and over the past 10 years. • Question – As the Port of Mackay grows, will this create interaction issues with recreational vessels and ships? • Response – <i>We currently manage vessel/ship interaction with education, traffic lights and a pilot launch boat which clears the channel during shipping movements. There would need to be a significant increase in vessels before additional measures were considered.</i> 	<p>ACTION: Add two agenda items to next CRG meeting, 1 – How NQBP makes a profit and 2 – How NQBP invest profits into the community.</p>

<p>5. NQBP Projects</p>	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure and Land Operations Tim Lewis</p> <p><i>Edmund Casey extension update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is progressing well and is still on track to be completed by early 2020. • Traffic management is in place and this will step up in the next few weeks. • Community enquiries have been low so far, CRG members noted that the rollout of the communication materials has worked well. <p>Question – Was the walk on country completed before the start of the project? Response – Yes, a walk on country occurred before the project started.</p> <p><i>North Wall CCTV project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCTV camera showing North Wall is now operational. • Our IT department are working through the technical logistics of streaming this from NQBP’s website. <p><i>George Bell Drive services improvement works</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP are replacing aging water infrastructure and undergrounding powerlines where possible. • Project at George Bell Drive is in the final stage of procurement. • This not only will increase water quality, flow and pressure throughout the Port but will allow oversize, over mass movements to occur more easily. <p><i>Stage 1 – Area 4 hardstand and washdown facility</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project to create a large concrete laydown area and washdown area near our existing facilities. • Increases NQBP’s capacity to accept larger items from overseas and will significantly improve the handling and managing of quarantine items. • Contractor started works in early October, expected to be completed by early 2020. <p>Presented by Emergency Manager Anthony Lee <i>Emergency management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on NQBP’s emergency management operations including evacuation routes and zones. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions around bushfire management plans and cyclone preparedness plans. • CRG members given an emergency kit from the Mackay Regional Council. 	
<p>6. Environmental update</p>	<p>Presented by Director Environment Kevin Kane</p> <p><i>Whitsunday water quality monitoring</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP have recently initiated a joint partnership with James Cook University and Reef Catchments to undertake water quality monitoring in the Whitsundays. • JCU will be providing certified training courses for tourism operators so that they can own the monitoring program in the future. <p><i>Blue carbon mapping</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science shows seagrass and mangroves stores more carbon than rainforests. • NQBP has calculated that across our four ports there is around 11 million tonnes of carbon stored. • This provides NQBP will opportunities to develop blue carbon management and enhancement as we strive to increase sustainability. <p><i>Marine pest surveillance pilot program</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP is working with Department of Agriculture and Fisheries on a pilot biosecurity. surveillance program at the Port of Mackay to focus on early detection of marine pests. • Will test DNA samples in addition to established practise of monitoring marine pest plates. <p><i>International environmental risk guideline</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin was involved in the international PIANC committee working on establishing “A Practical Guide to Environmental Risk Management (ERM) for Navigation Infrastructure Projects”. • Guide was three to four years in the making and were published in October. • The committee visited Mackay and Hay Point as part of the project and were impressed by the work undertaken in Australia. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question – When will there be dredging at Mackay? 	

	<p>Response – <i>The last maintenance dredging occurred in Mackay in 2012. There are various triggers for the need to maintenance dredge – e.g. sediment build up, need for capital projects, weather events. NQBP uses a drag bar annually at the Port of Mackay which has been working well, but we may need to undertake some maintenance dredging in the future. Mackay wasn't as affected by sediment movement during TC Debbie in comparison with our other ports. The breakwaters did their job. Typical maintenance dredging at Mackay takes between 3 -5 days.</i></p> <p>Hay Point maintenance dredging audit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The third-party independent auditor has completed the post Hay Point dredging audit report which has been uploaded to NQBP's website. There were 131 conditions NQBP was being audited on across all approvals. Auditor noted that all conditionals were adhered to and overall comment was that the job was done well. 	
7. Community update	<p>Presented by Senior Advisor Community Relations Amanda Blines</p> <p>Media report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional coverage of the first heavy lift ship movement and pest pilot program in September. Industry coverage of the Annual report results and Edmund Casey Drive extension in October. <p>Edmund Casey Drive project media coverage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media launch held on 11 October, overall coverage reached approximately 28,500 people. <p>Community engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of sponsorships and events for October and November were presented. Question – Can you provide the links for the videos presented tonight. Response – <i>Yes, encourage CRG members to 'Like' our Facebook page and register to NQBP's YouTube channel.</i> 	ACTION – NQBP to provide CRG members with links to recent videos.

<p>8. General Business</p>	<p><i>Southern Breakwater</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment – Appreciation of the new bins and bags established halfway along the breakwater. Could NQBP investigate installing another bin at the beginning of the breakwater? • Response – <i>We will discuss this with NQBP’s maintenance team.</i> <p>Meeting closed 7.10pm.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTION – Look into new rubbish bin at Southern Breakwater entrance.
<p>9. Proposed next meeting dates</p>	<p>Next Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 5 February 2020</p>	