

Mackay Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5.15pm Thursday 13 July 2023 – Volunteer Marine Rescue Base / Microsoft Teams

Chair:

Chair NQBP A/Chief Executive Officer, Belinda Kenny

Attendees:

<p>Community representatives Neville Duncan Neale Proctor (via Teams) Edan Stolberg</p> <p>Yuwi Native Title Holder representative Patricia Corrie</p> <p>Recreational Group representatives Alison Jones</p> <p>Business representatives Michael DePinto Maree Sturdy</p> <p>Environmental representative Katrina Dent</p>	<p>Port Industry/PAG representatives Rachael Haycock – Viva Energy Aaron Wood – Smit Lamnalco Wayne Tonga - Daltugs</p> <p>Mackay Regional Council representative N/A</p> <p>NQBP representatives Tim Lewis Emilie Power Darren Brownsey Odette Langham</p> <p>MSQ representative Matthew Cumming</p>
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Apologies: Kevin Kane, Lindsay Richardson, Jason Britton, Shane Hamilton, Cr Pauline Townsend, Elizabeth Warren

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Meeting open and apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting opened at 5.09pm • Community Reference Group members were welcomed by Chair NQBP A/Chief Executive Officer, Belinda Kenny. NQBP CEO recruitment process is still underway. • Aunty Pat Corrie provided a Welcome to Country to open the meeting. • Apologies recorded were Kevin Kane, Lindsay Richardson, Jason Britton, Shane Hamilton, Elizabeth Warren and Cr Pauline Townsend. 	
2. Disclosures of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members have disclosed their interests. • The register was presented, giving members the opportunity to manage appropriately. • No concerns were raised by any members. • No conflicts of interest were declared for this meeting. 	
3. CRG Correspondence, Questions and Actions Register	<p>Email received from Cr Alison Jones to show appreciation to NQBP for support of reef modules project with Reef Catchments.</p> <p>Actions register update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some actions still outstanding regarding signage for the Port of Mackay, and several presentations requested for future CRG meetings. • Refer to Actions Items Register for further details. 	
4. NQBP update	<p>Presented by Chair and NQBP A/CEO Belinda Kenny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of NQBP's Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Themes was provided. • An overview of the launch of NQBP's second Reconciliation Action Plan during National Reconciliation Week was provided. Hard copies of the RAP were made available to members. • Three long serving employees of NQBP were recently acknowledged through the naming of new plant (two vessels and a truck). 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six new roles have been recruited to the NQBP Mackay office since the last meeting. • An additional engineering internship was awarded recently with a third-year undergraduate civil engineering student starting with NQBP on 26 June. • The Port of Mackay was recently visited by the Deputy Premier, which was an opportunity for NQBP management to share the Port's potential as a gateway for renewable trade. • A brief update on the priority port master planning public consultation for the North Queensland ports of Hay Point/Mackay was provided. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TMR are leading the priority port master planning public consultation. ○ NQBP management recently met with TMR Minister Mark Bailey at North Wall. ○ Opportunity for Minister Bailey to familiarise himself with the area and for NQBP to share our commitment to safeguard the local environment and to provide awareness of the environmental, social and recreational importance of North Wall Beach. ○ There are no plans to develop the North Wall beach area. NQBP thanks CRG members for continuing to reassure the community. ○ TMR has released an insights summary of their community consultation. This is available on their website. ○ The draft master plan is currently being prepared and is due to be finalised late 2023. • A snapshot of NQBP's work being undertaken by the Safety team was given. <p>Comment - TMR haven't done anything to reassure the community around this process, the lack of communication around the insights summary has reinforced the angst that was initially created. The content of the insights summary seems to summarise all the key points, however the information around community consultation tactics used is misleading.</p>	
5. NQBP trade update	<p>Presented by General Manager Commercial and Maritime Services, Darren Brownsey</p> <p>Trade statistics update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Mackay has had another strong year, with grain, sugar and fuel all doing very well. • We are just shy of breaking our record of 3.6M tonnes recorded last year. • Total throughput for Port of Hay Point on track for ~99 million tonnes (Mt) for the FY. <p>Trade strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darren presented on how NQBP's trade focus is linked to strategy, objectives and KPIs. • An overview of the need for diversification was given and a snapshot of renewable targets / funding announcements / opportunities for NQBP in the future was outlined. 	

	<p>Question – What are the four priority ports? <i>Response – Mackay/Hay Point, Gladstone, Abbot Point and Townsville.</i></p> <p>Question – When would it be likely to see some port development in relation to hydrogen projects? <i>Response – At this stage it is hard to say. Planning for these projects is complex. While there are interested proponents, these need to link with renewable energy sources which then also need to be developed.</i></p> <p>Discussions around the complexities of hydrogen and/or ammonia production, methods of transportation and environmental management.</p>	
<p>6. NQBP infrastructure update</p>	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure, Tim Lewis</p> <p>Port projects update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$4M Northern Breakwater rehabilitation works to begin in August. Repairs damage caused by waves and weather events over decades. Works will ensure the breakwater continues to protect port infrastructure (tug berths, Wharf 5) into the future. Local contractors – Vassallos. • Middle Breakwater common user pipeline support replacement. Budget ~\$7 million. Tender to be awarded after lease negotiations are completed. Complex project. • Wharf 5 electrical upgrade tender re-advertised and tender reviews are underway. • Hydrographic surveys are now underway. Will guide upcoming seabed levelling. • Seabed levelling will take place over the coming months, for around a few weeks. • Surveys of breakwaters scheduled for October, weather permitting. • BOM is replacing the Mt Bassett weather radar with road closures currently in place. <p>Question – Will the new BOM radar be automated or staffed? <i>Response – Unsure, this would be a question for BOM. Media release on project on their website.</i></p> <p>Question - Does the BOM outage affect NQBP? <i>Response – No. NQBP has several ways to get weather reports including through BOM and the State Disaster Coordination Centre. NQBP also have our own data sources for wind, waves, currents etc which are of more importance to safe shipping. VTS also monitor. Rain is not usually a concern.</i></p>	

Port Binnli nib wall project

- Works continue on the Mackay Marina nib wall project.
- NQBP has handed over control of Southern Breakwater to Port Binnli / Mackay Marina / Halls contracting for the duration of the project.
- Some delays experienced at the quarry, works now expected to be completed by end of September, weather permitting.
- Community events have been held as normal (Mackay Marina Run etc)
- Mackay Marina handling all communications to community and media.

Question - How long is the nib wall going to be?

Response - NQBP to confirm but it has reached the full length at the toe, with all future works to build the nib wall up to the level of the existing breakwater wall. (Confirmation from Port Binnli is 120 metres).

Comment – The nib wall doesn't appear to affect boating traffic, there is more room to navigate in the Mackay Marina than the Coral Sea Marina in the Whitsundays.

Question – Will there be public access to the nib wall?

Response - No, the current approved design doesn't include this.

Emergency update presented by Emergency Manager Anthony Lee

- Anthony provided an overview of NQBP's Emergency Response approach. Inclusive of all agencies (Local, State and National). Emergency Management Plan and sub plans in place.
- Focus is prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.
- Site/tenant specific Emergency Response Plans in place.
- Regular exercises organised, both internal and also with external agencies where different scenarios are tested.
- Fire response – NQBP has installed a fire booster pump at Wharf 1 and there are two monitors in place.
- Evacuation sectors and exit routes in place.
- QFES can send direct text messages or recordings to voicemail on mobile phones in a certain area if needed for a mass evacuation.
- QFES and QPS would be lead agencies in a large-scale emergency response.

Comment – Thank you for this presentation, both informative and reassuring.



	<p>Question - Is this information communicated to locals? <i>Response - NQBP advises port tenants and key stakeholders. The community would be notified at the time of an event through the LDMG, QFES and or QPS as part of our collaborative approach for a large-scale evacuation.</i></p> <p>Question - Are the buffer zones (fire breaks) still being maintained between port land and community? <i>Response – Yes, we have been doing work on our fire breaks. We have been relocating some around the Slade Point Reserve and maintaining existing fire breaks around Bedford's Paddock.</i></p>	
7. Sustainability and environment update	<p>Presented by Manager Environment, Odette Langham</p> <p>JCU partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odette outlined the scholarships, internships and prizes recently awarded to marine science students. • NQBP recently delivered a 3-day masters intensive subject to 30 students on 'Coastal management from a port perspective' which was the first of its kind and very successful. <p>Environmental audit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP again achieved 100% in annual audit of our Environmental Management System under the ISO 14001:2015 international standard. No non-compliances, no opportunities for improvement which is a great outcome. <p>Question – Is NQBP responsible for removing Leucaena along Ron Searle Drive? <i>Response – NQBP has weed management plans in place for Strategic Port Land and have a contractor who undertakes this on our behalf. We can check if that area is NQBP responsibility and if not refer to TMR (possible road reserve).</i></p>	ACTION – NQBP to investigate weed management along Ron Searle Drive and refer to TMR if needed.
8. Community update	<p>Presented by Community and Stakeholder Advisor Emilie Power</p> <p>NQBP Sponsorships and Donations Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great response to NQBP Community Fund – 56 applications received again this year, evaluation process currently underway. • NQBP's 2022-23 corporate sponsorships included Resource Industry Network, Stella Maris seafarers support and NAIDOC Week Family Fun Day. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NQBP also supported a number of community events including the Indigenous Marathon Festival, Mackay Triathlon Club Multisport Festival and Mackay Marina Run. <p>Media coverage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent media coverage for NQBP included the launch of NQBP's Reconciliation Action Plan, NQBP's Community Fund, and some of our environmental initiatives. <p>Signage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proof of signage for Northern Mulherin Park area was shown to CRG members. Aim is to educate community on need for land for port activities / development. 	
9. General Business	<p>MSQ representative, Matthew Cumming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of Frontier Unity incident learnings the port procedures manuals are being reviewed and amended. There has been some tightening of restrictions for immobilisation works, and inclusion of mandatory reporting for diving operations. <p>Topic for next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new suggestions noted. See Actions Register for existing suggestions. <p>Meeting closed 6.25pm.</p>	
10. Next meeting date	Next meeting is Thursday 16 November 2023.	