

Meeting Minutes



QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee

Tuesday 4 September 2012

Chinchilla RSL sub-branch, 61 Heeney Street

1. Opening

The eleventh meeting of the QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee was called to order at 10:10am on Tuesday 4 September 2012 at the Chinchilla RSL sub-branch facilitated by Mr Jim Cavaye, Independent Facilitator.

2. Attendees

The following people attended the QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee meeting:

QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee Members	QGC Representatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cr Carolyn Tillman, Western Downs Regional Council• Kathie Fletcher, Queensland Murray Darling Committee• Carl Mitchell, Condamine Alliance• Cecil Brockhurst, Northern Community Committee Representative• Ros Wade, Southern Community Committee Representative• Carollee Murphy, Western Downs Regional Council• Bill Nicholas, AgForce• Mabrey Fogarty, Goondir Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Riksen, General Manager Water Solution• Caleb Yeoh, Lead Reporting and Monitoring Analyst• Brett Smith, Vice President Sustainability• Carl Martin, Field Operations Manager• Zoe Carroll, Acting Social Performance Manager• Robin Evans, Interim Deputy Director, International Mining for Development Centre• Will Rifkin, Associate Professor, Centre for Coal Seam Gas• Ken Berry, Environment Manager• Chris Lingard, Upstream and Water Coordinator
Apologies	Independent Facilitator
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Desley Gobbert, Department of Education and Training• Doreen Goldsmid, Central Community Committee representative• Floyd Leedie, Goondir Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jim Cavaye, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences, University of Queensland

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3. Meeting agenda

The following items of business were discussed as per the meeting agenda:

Agenda item	Details
a. Introductions and meeting overview	<p>Jim Cavaye led roundtable introductions of Community Committee members and QGC representatives.</p> <p>Jim Cavaye gave a broad overview of the meeting format and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was being held.</p>
b. Safety moment	<p>Jim Cavaye invited Committee members to share a safety moment.</p> <p>Zoe Carroll spoke about the risks of driving while tired.</p>
c. Development of Water Indicators	<p>Mark Riksen provided a presentation on QGC's Water Strategy. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water is a by-product of coal seam gas extraction.• Gas is trapped in the coal by water pressure. Water must be extracted to release the pressure and allow gas to flow. <p><i>Beneficial use</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• QGC's objective is to make 97% of all produced CSG water available for beneficial reuse• QGC is building a Water Treatment Plant in the Central region (Kenya WTP 92ML/day) and is proposing to build a second WTP in the Northern region (100ML/d)• The Kenya WTP will supply treated water to the Chinchilla Weir, through a pipeline built, owned and operated by SunWater. SunWater has entered into agreements to supply farmers, industry and the Western Downs Regional Council along the pipeline route and river. <p><i>Groundwater</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• QGC has lodged its Stage 2 Water Monitoring and Management Plan, which describes QGC's approach to groundwater modelling; drawdown assessments; hydraulic fracturing; surface water monitoring and management; response actions and reporting commitments.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QGC is planning to spend more than A\$1 billion on water management. • Extensive groundwater modelling has been conducted to identify areas where bores will be impacted by CSG extraction. • QGC is close to completing the baseline assessment for landholder water bores. The bore baseline assessment provides a “snapshot” to measure potential changes to water levels. • To date QGC has contacted owners of more than 2620 properties. • After three attempts, QGC has had responses from 1574 (60%) landholders. • Of these 1,574 properties, 296 properties had a total of approx. 450 bores. • QGC has tested 300 of these bores to date and have made arrangements for the remaining assessments. • Results will be shared with landholders and DERM and the Queensland Water Commission. • Landholders are encouraged to get in touch with QGC if their bore has not yet been surveyed. • In addition to the bore baseline assessment program, QGC is establishing a separate, ongoing, monitoring network. This involves installing bores into five aquifers to track water levels. A map was displayed showing the geographical distribution of the groundwater monitoring network. <p>The Committee discussed the bore baseline assessment, the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QGC has used a range of strategies to encourage landowners to participate including ads in local papers, letters and phone calls; however, it is the landowners’ choice as to whether they wish to take part. • Both registered and unregistered bores are part of the baseline assessment. QGC has not relied on the DERM database, but has contacted landholders directly. • QGC is monitoring bores on its own properties. • Information from the bore baseline assessment plus the purpose-built groundwater monitoring network will give QGC a good geographic spread. • QGC will work with landholders to determine appropriate “make good” arrangements (property specific) for those who are predicted to have bores

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	<p>impacted by CSG development.</p> <p>A Community member asked whether other companies are taking on the GEN3 model.</p> <p>Mark Riksen responded stating that QGC are working with the other companies to ensure consistent monitoring methods are taking place.</p> <p>Potential water indicators</p> <p>An in-depth discussion around water indicators was held with the Committee. In summary the key indicators suggested for monitoring include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicator 1 - Volume of water provided for agreed beneficial uses with environmentally or socially positive effects; shown as a proportion of all water extracted in each year. • Indicator 2, phase 1a - Installation of groundwater monitoring bore network • Indicator 2, phase 1b - Complete the bore baseline assessment • Indicator 2, phase 2 - Establishing an aquifer baseline • Indicator 2, phase 3 - Report on water pressure (standing water level) and water quality per aquifer in line with regional modelling. <p>The above indicators captured the following key community interests including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality and quantity (including salinity) • What uses the beneficial water is directed to e.g. agriculture, river system, industrial uses • Completion rate of monitoring bores – progress against target • Information on why changes are occurring whether they are natural fluctuations, other uses or CSG usage. <p>The Committee discussed an additional or replacement indicator be developed when the information is available to capture water bore level changes and performance targets to measure the company's response. It was noted that the time taken for the company to make good water bore impacts may depend on several factors outside the company's control and an indicator on this could be misconstrued.</p> <p>Mark Riksen said QGC would be developing a water portal to</p>

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	<p>publish monitoring data which would be publically available.</p> <p>The Committee was broadly supportive of the indicators but agreed to share the proposed indicators with their respective organisations and provide feedback at the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>Action: Committee members to provide feedback on the proposed water indicators at the next meeting.</p>
<p>d. Development of environmental indicators</p>	<p>Ken Berry provided presented potential environmental indicators. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record of the location (mapping) of all QGC infrastructure in WDRC area such as regulated dams, wells, water treatment plants, gathering and transmission flow lines and so on. • This mapping will also show major environmental features such as water, wetlands and environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) • Yearly record of the disturbance and rehabilitation areas within ESAs including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All category “A” ESAs - Category “B” Endangered Regional Ecosystems - Category “C” excluding “of concern” regional ecosystems, state forests and timber reserves - Category “C” “of concern” Regional ecosystems, state forests and timber reserves. <p>Examples of the type of mapping and a disturbance record were shown to the group. This showed that information on disturbance on ESAs can be shown in a range of different ways. Information can also be illustrated as large maps or more individualised information on property lots.</p> <p>The committee discussed offsets, which are not often one-for-one but can be a multiplier or different plant species. The Committee recommended offsets be marked separately.</p> <p>An in-depth discussion was held to brainstorm environmental indicators. The suggested indicators were divided into the following themes and listed:</p> <p>Disturbance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extent of disturbance and rehabilitation, offsets and decommissioning

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air quality – including emissions, air, noise, dust and lighting - Energy efficiency - Soil quality - Infrastructure and activity footprint – size and displacement - Soil quality and quantity. <p>Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flood plain management – flood flows and surface water flow impacts - Use and efficiency for all elements of QGC business e.g. weed wash down to camps - Water quality. <p>Pests and fire management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effort on weed control and spread - Feral animals – effort and management of on QGC property's and liaison and collaboration with neighbouring landowners - Fire management. <p>Waste management at camps</p> <p>Community environmental impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Locally important ecosystems such as flora and wild flowers – aesthetic assets - Areas of community significance, value, social/tourist sites. <p>It was noted by the group that finding suitable targets and /or ways to quantify the indicators was the next step and this may discount some of the indicators. The aim is to select a few key and meaningful indicators.</p> <p>Action: QGC to investigate use of the above indicators and report back at next meeting.</p> <p>Action: QGC to gather information on aesthetic assets through contacting relevant local organisations (Zoe Carroll).</p> <p>The Committee discussed the difficulty in capturing as a whole the impacts related to QGC's operations. There was broad agreement that key indicators for social, environmental and economic contributions, taken together, represented the most practical approach of achieving this.</p>

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<p>e. Social Economic and other indicators</p>	<p>Robin Evans provided an update on the Sustainability Indicators project and in particular the socio-economic indicators. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members completed a questionnaire in 2010. The ranking of issues was used to select the topics of most interest and indicators were developed to address these. • Social indicators measure (a) community opinion of QGC; (b) QGC resident employees and partners participation in community activities; and (c) partnerships in health and social infrastructure. • Built indicators measure (a) regional road network contributions; (b) balance of new housing stock facilitated by QGC. • Economic indicators measure (a) value of contracts and sub-contracts awarded to businesses in WDRC area; (b) QGC training and apprenticeship activities and outcomes; (c) new positions accessed by local residents in QCLNG project. <p>Once the full suite of indicators is drafted it was agreed that they would be updated annually.</p> <p>The Committee requested that they be provided with the next draft of the indicators two weeks prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Actions: Updated indicators to be circulated to Committee two weeks ahead of the next meeting.</p> <p>A Committee member thanked Robin Evans for his presentation and said that it was pleasing to see the indicators the Committee helped develop being populated.</p>
<p>f. Update on Centre for Coal Seam Gas cumulative impact project</p>	<p>Will Rifkin provided an update on the Centre for Coal Seam Gas cumulative impact project. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A three-year project; the first phase is focused on cumulative social economic impacts. • Supported by three coal seam gas companies as well as the University of Queensland • Insights will be shared throughout the life of the project • The purpose of the project is to illustrate some of the social economic changes happening in coal seam gas

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	<p>communities, monitoring these and responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently in the data mapping stage. <p>The Committee shared with Will Rifkin some of the current social impacts causing most stress in the Western Downs Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of affordable housing • Sense of belonging and identity lost • Loss of volunteers with retirees and others leaving • Community cohesion. <p>Some suitable indicators or items for investigation for the project were discussed by the committee. Some suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belonging and identity • Population change and impact on sense of liveability • Impacts/benefits on local services • Understanding of what makes people stay or leave the area • What's been lost verses what's been gained • What builds community resilience to deal with change • Community expectations at beginning of projects vs. realities • Trends in data – what is considered past, present and future data • Accommodation – housing and short-term. <p>Will Rifkin invited Committee members to contact him with further suggestions.</p> <p>Will Rifkin agreed to provide updates to the Committee at relevant milestones, but could be contacted directly or updates provided via Zoe Carroll in the interim.</p>
<p>g. Actions from previous meeting</p>	<p>Jim Cavaye reviewed the actions from the previous meeting.</p> <p>Condamine Alliance project QGC invited Condamine Alliance to present their water quality project to representatives of the CSG companies. The meeting took place in May.</p> <p>New meeting format The meeting was extended to four hours in line with the Committee's recommendation.</p>

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	<p>The Committee agreed that the four hour meeting was preferable and should be continued.</p> <p>Sustainability indicators Sustainability indicators discussed, including review of the initial survey results, as requested.</p>
<p>h. Community feedback</p>	<p>Jim Cavaye invited Committee members to share feedback from their networks.</p> <p>Illustrating data Condamine Alliance presented a good example of how environmental data can be presented in an informative and interesting graphical illustration. The example provided was of the environmental report card they used to present their findings after the flood recovery.</p>
<p>i. Adoption of minutes</p>	<p>Jim Cavaye asked the Committee to formally consider the Thursday 26 April 2012 minutes and asked for suggested changes.</p> <p>The Thursday 26 April 2012 Central Gas Field Community Committee minutes were adopted.</p>
<p>j. Items for next agenda</p>	<p>Jim Cavaye invited the Committee to propose agenda items for the next meeting. The following suggestions were received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parked indicators environmental and water indicators • Discuss definition of sustainability • More in-depth discussion on social impacts. Focusing on positive suggestions for government, community and companies on resolving social issues that are currently not being addressed.

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4. General Business

Zoe Carroll informed Committee members that a new brochure has been published for [QGC's Sustainable Communities Program](#). The brochure outlines QGC's social investments and SIMP commitments. Zoe Carroll distributed brochures to all Committee members present.

Zoe Carroll reminded the Committee that the QGC Sustainable Communities Fund is currently open and receiving applications. The closing date for the fund is 5pm on 30 September.

5. Meeting Close

The meeting was closed by Jim Cavaye at 2:00pm.

The date of the next meeting is to be advised.

6. Central Gas Field Community Committee Members

Representative	Organisation
Bill Nicholas	AgForce
Carolee Murphy	Western Downs Regional Council
Cr Carolyn Tillman	Western Downs Regional Council
Cecily Brockhurst	Northern Gas Field Representative
Ros Wade	Southern Gas Field Representative
Desley Gobbert	Department of Education and Training. DDSW Region
Floyd Leedie	Goondir Health Services
Kathie Fletcher	Queensland Murray-Darling Committee
Doreen Goldsmid	Central Gas Field Representative
Carl Mitchell	Condamine Alliance