



Mr Graham Clapham

Chair's Summary

A combined meeting of the Inner Darling Downs and Southern Darling Downs community consultative committees was held on Tuesday 22 May 2018 at the Brookstead Hall.

This summary provides an overview of the meeting in order to share information with the community at the earliest opportunity.

The summary is a precursor to the formal meeting minutes, which will be published on the Inland Rail website following endorsement by the committees.

The meeting was attended by 23 members, with five committee members having tendered their apologies.

ARTC advised that geotechnical, ecological and cultural heritage site investigations had started and the Condamine floodplain crossing study was progressing.

A committee member requested details of where ARTC had conducted flood investigations as to provide surety that the study was comprehensive. ARTC advised that it would look into whether this was possible given confidentiality requirements.

ARTC provided an overview of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process and how to make comment on the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the NSW/QLD Border to Gowrie project, which were released by the Office of the Coordinator-General for comment from 7 May 2018 to 5pm 18 June 2018.

The draft ToR, a fact sheet and comment form are available to download from <https://haveyoursay.dsd.qld.gov.au/coordinatorgeneral/inlandrail-b2g/>

In addition, ARTC is running seven community consultation sessions from 23 May to 7 June in key towns within the study area to provide information to the community about the draft ToR and how to make comment to the Office of the Coordinator-General.

ARTC gave an outline of the new Land Access Agreement (LAA) that it has recently adopted across Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria. Key differences between the LAA and the previous Property Access Form include the addition of a confidentiality clause, landowner consultation about the remediation of geotechnical investigation sites, and clarification on protections for landowners in the event of an accident or damage to their property linked to work undertaken by ARTC. While it has always been ARTC's position that a landowner could terminate a LAA or refuse entry for a particular purpose, this has now been included to remove any doubt.

Committee members requested further information about whether the landowner protection extended to weed spread caused by contaminated vehicles visiting properties. ARTC undertook to seek clarification on this issue.

An Inner Darling Downs committee member emphasised the importance of holding separate meetings of the Inner Darling Downs and Southern Darling Downs committees as the issues for the two areas are different. It was clarified that the intention going forward was for ordinary meetings to be separate, though combined meetings may be held to discuss topics of interest to both areas.

Mr Graham Clapham

Chair - Inland Rail Southern Darling Downs Community Consultative Committee

Interim Chair - Inland Rail Inner Darling Downs Community Consultative Committee

25 May 2018

Interested community members are welcome to attend committee meetings as observers. For more information please contact the Inland Rail Community Engagement team.

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