



Meeting	AGL Bayswater - Community Consultative Committee
Venue	Future U Hub, Bayswater Power Station
Time	3:00pm – 5:00pm
Date	29 May 2025
Chair	Lisa Andrews
Attendees	AGL representatives: Seth Pathiyil, Len McLachlan, James Coventry*, Jo Ferguson, Polly Yuille, Mel Cleary, Kate Schultz, Alex Ristoski, Rob Cooper, Chirag Kakadiya*, Michael Butler, Ray Balks, Mollie O’Hara CCC Members: Justin Fitzpatrick-Barr*, Cr Rod Scholes, Laurie Perry*, De-anne Douglas*, Cr Sue Moore* (Mayor Singleton Shire Council), Kevin Timpson and Jennifer Lecky
Apologies	Derek Finnegan, Cr Maurice Collison, Matthew Pringle, Mike Kelly, Andrew Speechly, Dwight Graham, Ged Elphistone, Nicole Rindal, Cr Graeme McNeill. <i>* Joined on line</i>

Agenda items and minutes

Item	Discussion
01	Welcome, Introduction and Apologies – Chair - Meeting opened at 3.06pm, Lisa Andrews and reminded members that this meeting was being recorded for the purposes of the minutes (Co-Pilot) - Acknowledgment of Country and recap of AGL’s National Reconciliation Week activities Apologies – as listed above.
02	Declarations of Interest No changes to previous declarations.
03	Previous minutes The minutes of the previous CCC, held on 27 February 2025 were finalised on 27 March 2025.
04	Business arising Action Items:



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE BY	COMMENTS
AGL to provide details when available, on contribution Bayswater makes to local economy and community, and contribution of proposed new renewable and Hunter Energy Hub projects	Rob Cooper	AGL to provide details when available, on contribution Bayswater makes to local economy and community, and contribution of proposed new renewable and Hunter Energy Hub projects	Held over. When available.
AGL to provide clarification on the potential future recreational use of Lake Liddell.	James Coventry	AGL to provide clarification on the potential future recreational use of Lake Liddell.	Moved to presentation (Section 8) Complete.
Send email to MSC GM seeking information on proposed laydown pad proposed by EnergyCo at Lake Liddell Recreation Area.	Ged Elphinstone	Send email to MSC GM seeking information on proposed laydown pad proposed by EnergyCo at Lake Liddell Recreation Area.	GE an apology today. Hold over.

05

Correspondence as sent out with the meeting notice on 8/5/25 with [2 additional items on 12/5/25 \(Agenda\) and 26/5/25, which was the reminder for this CCC.](#)

- 19/3/25 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review.
- 27/3/25 – Email to members with the finalised minutes.
- 29/4/25 – Email from Upper Hunter Shire Council advising that the Mayor, Cr Collison is its delegate on this CCC. Acknowledged.
- 8/5/25 – Email to members with meeting notice for this CDG.
- 12/5/25 – Email to members with agenda for this meeting
- 26/5/25 – Email to members with reminder for this meeting.



06

AGL and Bayswater Update – Len McLachlan

Slides presented with additional commentary:

- Discussed the recent acquisition of two pumped hydro projects by AGL, which has generated excitement among the workforce.
- Highlighted the technical issues and outages faced by Bayswater Power Station at times, attributing these challenges to the aging infrastructure.
- Stressed the importance of the transition working group meetings, which facilitate early conversations with employees about the transition process and individual planning.
- Noted the upcoming major outage at Bayswater Power Station, which will involve substantial refurbishment and compliance work.
- Shared details of 40th anniversary celebrations for Bayswater Power Station, reflecting on the plant's history and contributions.

07

Bayswater Environment – Alex Ristoski

Slides presented with additional commentary:

- Six incidents reported to EPA year to date, two reportable incidents since the last meeting.
- AGL received a \$30,000 Penalty Infringement Notice for an ash spill into Chillcots Creek. There was no observed harm to the environment and clean-up efforts were commended by EPA.
- AGL also received an Infringement Notice for non-compliance with SSD 6967. The oversight was rectified immediately upon discovery.
- Pollution Reduction Studies: assessment of chemical storage bunds resulted in compliance upgrades for 14 out of 15 bunds. The final bund to be completed by mid-next month.
- Improvement Projects:
 - Lake Liddell seepage pump upgrade to enhance reliability and capacity.
 - Emergency diesel generator upgrade for enhanced safety and coverage.
 - Contractor car park refurbishment involving vegetation offsets and infrastructure upgrades.

08

Liddell Transition – James Coventry

Slides presented with additional commentary:

- The next phase of Lake Liddell assessment has been commissioned, focusing on surface water and sediment characterization. Monitoring and analysis will be conducted over the next two years to understand how the lake's properties change during the demolition phase. 12 months of intrusive sampling, testing, and lab analysis have been planned to gather comprehensive data on lake conditions. Concerns about stagnant lake water leading to issues such as H₂S gas during the Hunter River salinity trading scheme releases were



raised. It was noted that Lake Liddell will not be used as a recreational lake again. As a Bayswater asset it will be monitored over the next 3 years.

- Demolition works are progressing well, with the support of the EPA and other NSW departments.
- Transition Team met with NSW Police's Chief Inspector Todd Hobson to discuss public safety for demolition events. His insights have been valuable, and he has volunteered to act as a conduit for stakeholder communication.
- The administration building is undergoing debris sifting and recycling efforts, setting high standards for waste management.

09

Liddell Battery – Chirag Kakadiya

Slides presented with additional commentary

- Design and engineering progressed sustained with majority of drawings reached 'Issued for Construction' status
- Full R1 package has been submitted (R1 is a stage of grid connection process before achieving Generator Registration. This status means that AGL has submitted all grid connection modelling information of R1 stage to Transgrid and AEMO.
- All battery cubes have been delivered and are being installed.
- Battery substation construction is in progress.
- Photos shown of the Liddell Site.

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Hunter Energy Hub – Seth Pathiyil

Slides presented with additional commentary

- Geotech surveys for the first set of sites are underway and scheduled to finish next week.
- Upcoming surveys include environmental compliance, regulatory compliance, and spring surveys over the next 6-8 months.
- Stage 1 - Select Phase Development is targeted for completion by the end of June 2025.
- Focus on the PMF process to analyse infrastructure options, select an approved option, and proceed to the development phase next year.
- Scheduled to bring beehives to the Manuka Honey Project this spring.
- Significant progress despite earlier challenges, crediting the team's efforts.
- Recent visitors include Hon. Tim Ayers, Assistant Minister for Trade & Infrastructure & Future Made in Australia
- Engagements with Liquid Power for sustainable aviation fuel development and Hyundai for solar panel recycling initiatives.



- Participation in Sydney Climate Week and Hunter New Energy Symposium to showcase site activities.

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Muswellbrook Pumped Hydro Energy Storage (MPHES) – Mel Cleary

Project Status:

- Geotech investigation in mine pit progressing.
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act referrals - requests for information are being addressed.
- Majority of Environmental Impact Statement field work completed.
- Environmental Impact Statement draft technical studies being reviewed.
- Biodiversity Stewardship surveys are underway.
- Cultural Heritage Mapping has been completed.

Stakeholder and Community Engagement update:

- Meetings held with Transport for NSW considering MPHES, Muswellbrook bypass and impacts with each other on the proposed projects.
- Voluntary Planning Agreement - draft terms of agreement with Muswellbrook Shire Council being prepared.
- Field trip with Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water planned for June 2025.
- Community drop in sessions planned for August 2025.
- Frequently Asked Questions document ready to go live on the website.

Muswellbrook Battery Energy Storage System – Mel Cleary

Key Features:

- 150MW / 300MWh Lithium Battery (LFP).
- Development Approval granted in 2023 by NSW DPHI.
- Located adjacent to existing Ausgrid Muswellbrook substation.
- 20+ year project life.
- 60 Peak construction jobs and 2-3 ongoing roles.
- Energisation expected mid 2027.

Progress Highlights:

- Draft Voluntary Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note on [public exhibition](#) via Muswellbrook Shire Council's website until 19 June 2025.
- Draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) shared with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for review and comment - submissions close 21 June 2025.



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- Initial geotechnical investigations complete and further early engineering works progressing.

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AGL in the Community Jo Ferguson

Slides presented with additional commentary:

- Denman Diesel Rust Dust Truck & Machinery show 2025.
 - 3500 people through the gates.
 - Raised \$3500 for Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.
- Scone Horse Festival
 - 17 schools attended.
 - Increase support from local community.
 - AGL volunteers will be used next year to help set up.
- Fundraisings Challenges
 - Events out in the community and at site for Upper Hunter Homeless.
 - Singleton sleep out – Leadership team involved,
 - Charity Ball 12th September 2025.
- LMc challenging every team on site to use volunteer day for the sleep out.
- Record high volunteer days used by AGL.
- Science & Engineering Challenge, run by University of Newcastle and AGL – 150-200 students per day. Primary & secondary schools involved.

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General Business and Future meeting items

- DD – Provided an update for Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council – slab has been laid for the keeping place, if rain holds off, should commence building next week.
- Polly Yuille to distribute invitations for group to attend Bayswater 40th celebrations. **Action.**
- Cr Rod Scholes commented on how informative he found the indigenous education section of the AGL induction program.
- Cr Rod Scholes raised on behalf of Cr Graeme McNeill the issue of AGL purchasing safety glasses from a non-local supplier. **Action: Took on notice. AGL to investigate.**

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Next Meetings for 2025

-  Thursday 28 August
-  Thursday 27 November

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Meeting closed at 4.32pm – LA thanked all for their attendance.



Action Items

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Invitation to CCC members for Bayswater 40 th anniversary celebration	Polly Yuille	ASAP	
Investigate purchase of safety glasses by non-local supplier	Len McLachlan	Next Meeting	