



AGL NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING No. 30 HELD AT
HUNTER REGION BOTANIC GARDENS
AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO-CONFERENCING
ON WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 2026 AT 10am

PRESENT	NAME	ORGANISATION
	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Brett Hoad (BH)	Transport for NSW - Deputy Project Director M1 Extension to Raymond Terrace <i>online*</i>
	Ken Page	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens
	Kourosh Maleklou (KM)	AGL - Asset Manager for NGSF
	Joanne Ferguson (JF)	AGL – Community Relations Manager
	Gemma Wallace (GW)	Port Stephens Council – Snr Strategic Planner
	Charlie Perry (CP)	AGL – Snr Project Manager, Battery Project <i>online*</i>
	Michael Law (ML)	AGL – Site Manager
	Andrew Brajih (AB)	AGL – Approvals Specialist Construction
	John Simpson (JS)	Hunter Water Delegate
	Rob Cooper (RC)	AGL – Snr Manager Stakeholder Engagement
	Leigh Ridgeway	NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group & Worimi Board member
	Danny Oakley	Tomago Aluminium <i>online*</i>
APOLOGIES	Kevin Taylor	AGL – Head of Generation (Gas & Renewables)
	Cr Paul Le Mottee	Port Stephens Council (alternate delegate)
	Monica Porte	John Holland & Gamuda Australia - Community & Stakeholder Engagement Lead
	Zoe Bowen	AGL – Snr Environmental Advisor, Gas Assets
	Karen Varker	Port Stephens Koala Hospital
	Dianne Ball	Wahroonga Aboriginal Corporation

**Attended via video-conferencing.*

The CDG meeting was opened at 10.02am.

Acknowledgement of Country – LA delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

WELCOME	LA welcomed all attendees to the AGL Newcastle Gas Storage Facility Community Dialogue Group (CDG) and introduced Gemma Wallace, Senior Strategic Planner with Port Stephens Council. Stating that Charlie Perry, Brett Hoad & Danny Oakley were joining online. All attendees introduced themselves. KM suggested that the name of the committee be changed to reflect its objectives (ie not just the Gas Facility, but incorporating the BESS and community activities). Options for consideration: AGL Newcastle CDG or AGL Tomago CDG.	Taken on Notice: RC to check the conditions of consent to see if NGSF needs to be identified in title.
APOLOGIES	As listed above.	

DECLARATIONS	LA advised that she is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Planning engaged by AGL to chair this CDG.	No changes to members' previous declarations.						
BUSINESS ARISING	The minutes from the previous meeting held on 25 February 2026 were finalised and sent to members on 19 March 2026. There was one action item: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ITEM</th><th>ISSUE</th><th>BY WHOM</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>ZB to arrange the HRBG Orchid Team to visit the Medowie Offset property to survey the site.</td><td>ZB/KP</td></tr> </tbody> </table> No other business arising.	ITEM	ISSUE	BY WHOM	1	ZB to arrange the HRBG Orchid Team to visit the Medowie Offset property to survey the site.	ZB/KP	1. Carry over. When season permits (Spring).
ITEM	ISSUE	BY WHOM						
1	ZB to arrange the HRBG Orchid Team to visit the Medowie Offset property to survey the site.	ZB/KP						
CORRESPONDENCE	10/3/26 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review & advising of date change to 10/6/26. 19/3/26 - Email to members with the finalised minutes & presentation. 1/6/26 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for this meeting. 9/6/26 – Email to members, rescheduling CDG to 25/6/26. 23/6/26 – Email to members with reminder for this meeting.	As provided with meeting notice – emailed 1/6/26.						
NEWCASTLE GAS STORAGE FACILITY UPDATE (KM)	- No major incidents, MTIs or LTIs - Plant is in HOLDING mode - Permitted work increased by 25% from the same period last year - Audited by DCCEEW on PL42 in April – no major issues - Tank filling completed - Tank level 1,442 TJ (minimum 1400 TJ requirement by government – maximum 1500 TJ allowed). - Major project and maintenance activities ongoing - Safety Case preparation ongoing – detailed risk assessment.	Slide 4						
ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE (KM)	- Zero environmental incidents in this quarter - Water monitoring event completed in March 2026 - Final report received in June & sent to stakeholders - Results indicate no exceedances of adopted AGL groundwater guidelines - NGSF is not having a significant impact on local groundwater elevations. - FY26 NPI data collation will commence in early July	Slide 5						
ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE - MEDOWIE OFFSET PROPERTY (KM)	- No issues experienced at the property in the last quarter - Weed management activities ongoing but have been hampered by poor weather conditions in recent months - Annual ecological monitoring currently being undertaken and animal cameras were deployed in early June (out for 3-weeks) - Fencing work also being undertaken during June - Annual report will be prepared in July	Slide 6 with photographs of fauna camera monitoring site						
COMMUNITY (JF)	Celebrating the women who work at AGL JF highlighted local recruitment efforts and AGL's ongoing dedication to developing career pathways for	Slide 8						

	women across the Hunter region, which included attending the International Women's Day community leadership event. Clontarf Academy students from Irrawang and Hunter River High Schools tour the site and meet the NGSF team AGL maintained active partnerships with Singleton and Muswellbrook High Schools bringing student cohorts on-site for facilities tour. RC advised that Bayswater is currently recruiting for their new intake of apprentices and Clontarf students have applied. Volunteering in Port Stephens Photos depicting the volunteer planting and weeding of the Tomaree Coastal Walk. Breakfast was provided by the Rotary Club members. JF explained that there has been good rainfall, so looking forward to seeing the growth of the plants next time she is there. NASCA Careers Expo What's Next: ▪ Port Stephens Winter Festival – 10-19 July ▪ Nations of Origin – 14-15 July ▪ Youyoong Deadly Awards – 16 September ▪ 2026 Koori Knockout – 2-5 October	Slide 9 Slide 10 Slide 11 Slide 12
AGL UPDATE (RC)	▪ AGL's Chief Executive joined the West Australian Premier for an official sod turning ceremony at the Kwinana Gas Power Generation 2 Project (K2). ▪ K2 will be a 220 MW open-cycle, dual-fuel gas turbine power station, co-located with the existing Kwinana Swift (K1) site. ▪ Once completed, the combined Kwinana 1 and 2 sites will offer 340 MW of dispatchable power into the Western Australian electricity market, known as the SWIS. ▪ K2 is a major investment to provide dispatchable generation to support flexibility and reliability as the energy system evolves and brings more renewables online. ▪ AGL is investigating gas peaking opportunities in Victoria, NSW and Queensland.	Slide 14 Photograph of AGL's ceremonial shovel, manufactured from materials recycled from the Liddell Power Station.
LIDDELL POWER STATION STACK DEMOLITION (RC)	▪ Video's shown of the Liddell Power Station stack demolition that was carried out on 26 May 2026. ▪ > 33,000 views of demolition live stream ▪ 250 attendees at Muswellbrook RSL Club 'Live Site' ▪ Mini documentary showcased history of Liddell	Slides 16, 17 & 18 including photographs

	Extensive media coverage captured 'end of era' moment done safely and with respect for legacy of former employees. Thorough dust suppression measures, including customised water mist curtains were deployed successfully during the blast. Contractors are now continuing with the next stages of site demolition.	
TOMAGO BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM 500MW/2000MWh (4 hours duration) (CP)	CP provided the Tomago BESS presentation: Development / Approvals - Traffic Management Plan update for escorted OSOM loads is underway. - Fire Safety Study reviewed by FRNSW. Construction - BESS (Fluence) - Clearing completed in April. - Bulk earthworks anticipated completion June. - Concrete pours planned from July. - Battery deliveries expected to start late August. - Connection Works (Transgrid) - Switch Bay works commenced early June. - Underground cable – clearing has commenced. - Trenching and directional drilling from July.	Slide 19, 20 & 21
GENERAL BUSINESS	- Tomago Aluminium – DO advised that negotiations are progressing with government to lock in a new long-term energy contract following the expiration of the current deal. - BH advised that the M1 Pacific Motorway Extension to Raymond Terrace is proceeding well. - KP advised that the Regional Botanic Gardens are marking their 40th anniversary this year with scaled back celebrations. They are looking forward to the roadworks being finished and plan to "re-launch" the Gardens - The HRBG Annual Children's Discovery Day is scheduled for 7 July 2026. - LR advised that there will be multiple NAIDOC Week celebrations across local Council's starting next week, culminating with a flag raising ceremony and community recognition awards on 9 July 2026. The street march was postponed due to rain and will now be held on 6 July. - LR expressed his formal thanks to AGL, inviting representatives to attend the official opening of the Goolaman Centre, which will be operated to help youth in crisis. It will be used for aboriginal and low socio economic groups in the wider community to assist with getting kids back to school, work	

	placement, medical and dental services. AGL assisted in providing solar panels and batteries to the building. • LR also thanked AGL for providing sponsorship/support for the next 2 years (\$10k p/a) to assist with youth education for leadership camps and the Deadly Awards. JF commented that this was funded by the Tomago BESS Community Fund. • JS advised that following three wet seasons, low water stocks exist due to low rainfall, Hunter Water implement restrictions at 60% storage and are currently using Tomago bore fields to supplement the supply; luckily local catchments are now sitting healthy with approximately 70% capacity following recent rainfall..	
NEXT MEETING	LA advised that the next meeting date will be Wednesday 26 August 2026, at the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens, commencing at 10am.	Agreed. LR advised that he will be an apology.

Meeting closed at 11.00am with LA thanking members for their attendance and contribution.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	ZB to arrange the HRBG Orchid Team to visit the Medowie Offset property to survey the site	ZB/KP
2	Check consent conditions of the NGSF about the requirements for the Community Dialogue Group	RC