



**AGL NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE GROUP**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING No. 30 HELD AT**  
**HUNTER REGION BOTANIC GARDENS**  
**AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO-CONFERENCING**  
**ON THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 10am**

| <b>PRESENT</b>   | <b>NAME</b>             | <b>ORGANISATION</b>                                                                        |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                  | Lisa Andrews (LA)       | Independent Chairperson                                                                    |
|                  | Brett Hoad (BH)         | Transport for NSW - Deputy Project Director M1 Extension to Raymond Terrace <i>online*</i> |
|                  | Cr Paul Le Mottee (PLM) | Port Stephens Council (on behalf of Mayor, alternate delegate)                             |
|                  | Kourosh Maleklou (KM)   | AGL - Asset Manager for NGSF                                                               |
|                  | Joanne Ferguson (JF)    | AGL – Community Relations Manager                                                          |
|                  | Charlie Perry (CP)      | AGL – Snr Project Manager, Battery Project                                                 |
|                  | Karen Varker (KV)       | Port Stephens Koala Hospital <i>online*</i>                                                |
|                  | Dianne Ball (DB)        | Wahroonga Aboriginal Corporation                                                           |
|                  | John Simpson (JS)       | Hunter Water Delegate                                                                      |
|                  | Rob Cooper (RC)         | AGL – Snr Manager Stakeholder Engagement                                                   |
|                  | Zoe Bowen (ZB)          | AGL – Snr Environmental Advisor, Gas Assets                                                |
|                  | Peter Jaeger (PJ)       | Tomago Aluminium                                                                           |
| <b>APOLOGIES</b> | Kevin Taylor            | AGL – Head of Generation (Gas & Renewables)                                                |
|                  | Leigh Ridgeway          | NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group & Worimi Board member                          |
|                  | Ken Page                | Hunter Region Botanic Gardens                                                              |

*\*Attended via video-conferencing.*

**The CDG meeting was opened at 10.02am.**

***Acknowledgement of Country*** – LA delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                        |
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| <b>WELCOME</b>          | LA welcomed all attendees to the AGL Newcastle Gas Storage Facility Community Dialogue Group (CDG) and introduced Peter Jaeger, new Environmental Superintendent with Tomago Aluminium. Stating that Brett Hoad & Karen Varker were joining online. All attendees introduced themselves. | <b>PJ was invited to introduce himself to the CDG.</b> |
| <b>APOLOGIES</b>        | As listed above. LA thanked JF for meeting with KP prior to the CDG to go through the AGL presentation, as KP was unable to attend the meeting due to a conflicting board meeting.                                                                                                       |                                                        |
| <b>DECLARATIONS</b>     | LA advised that she is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Planning engaged by AGL to chair this CDG.                                                                                                                                                              | <b>No changes to members' previous declarations.</b>   |
| <b>BUSINESS ARISING</b> | The minutes from the previous meeting held on 25 June 2026 were finalised and sent to members on 15 July 2026. There were two action items:                                                                                                                                              |                                                        |

|                                                   | <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> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Check consent conditions of the NGSF about the requirements for the Community Dialogue Group</td><td>RC</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p># <b>Committee Name Change:</b> The group unanimously agreed to change the committee name to AGL Tomago Community Dialogue Group to encompass both the Gas Storage Facility and the Tomago Battery BESS project.</p> <p>No other business arising.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                 | ITEM                                                     | ISSUE | BY WHOM | 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 | <p><b>1. Not yet arranged - carry over.</b></p> <p><b>2. No formal consent condition.</b></p> <p>#</p> |
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| ITEM                                              | ISSUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | BY WHOM                                                  |       |         |   |                                                                                             |       |   |                                                                                              |    |                                                                                                        |
| 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                                                       |       |         |   |                                                                                             |       |   |                                                                                              |    |                                                                                                        |
| <b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/7/26 – Email to members with the draft minutes for review.</li> <li>15/7/26 - Email to members with the finalised minutes &amp; presentation.</li> <li>5/8/26 – Email to members changing date from 26/8/26 to 17/9/26.</li> <li>7/9/26 - Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda &amp; Correspondence Report for this meeting.</li> <li>15/9/26 – Email to members with reminder for this meeting.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>As provided with meeting notice – emailed 7/9/26.</b> |       |         |   |                                                                                             |       |   |                                                                                              |    |                                                                                                        |
| <b>NEWCASTLE GAS STORAGE FACILITY UPDATE (KM)</b> | <p><b>Newcastle Gas Storage Facility (NGSF):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No major incidents, MTIs or LTIs</li> <li>Zero safety/environmental incidents.</li> <li>Plant in holding mode after completing winter send out season (775 TJ sent to Sydney market).</li> <li>Audited by SWNSW &amp; FR NSW – no major issues</li> <li>Tank currently at 40%, a lot of maintenance has occurred during non-activity time.</li> <li>Tank currently at 670 TJ; summer refilling commences next week back to 1,500 TJ.</li> <li>Visit by regulators – DCCEEW. No issues.</li> <li>Shutdown complete – de-isolation/de-energisation</li> <li>5-year Safety Case review ~90% complete (\$1M investment), targeting submission in January 2027.</li> </ul> <p>PJ asked what the term of the licence was with KM responding that it is 5 years.</p> | <b>Slide 4</b>                                           |       |         |   |                                                                                             |       |   |                                                                                              |    |                                                                                                        |
| <b>ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE (ZB)</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zero environmental incidents in this quarter</li> <li>Water monitoring event completed in 14-15 September 2026</li> <li>March water monitoring report concluded that NGSF is not have a significant impact on local groundwater or surface water.</li> <li>FY26 NPI report submission end of September 2026. JS asked if the NPI is a requirement for the EPL. ZB responded no, however, some of the data is used.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Slide 5</b>                                           |       |         |   |                                                                                             |       |   |                                                                                              |    |                                                                                                        |



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|                        | <p>➤ Strengthen relationships between PCYC clubs and their local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.</p> <p>AGL's sponsorship helped support teams in Rugby League 7's, Netball 5's, Basketball and Gymnastics.</p> <p>DB commented on their teams having uniforms this year and how this brought the kids together, being proud to wear them. It was also good to see the Worimi &amp; Wonaruah mobs coming together, as there have previously been division due to their locations on either side of the river (known colloquially as the postcode wars). DB thanked AGL for their sponsorship, stating that it was not a hand-out but a hand-up.</p> <p><b>2026 Youyoong AECG Deadly Awards</b></p> <p>JF highlighted the awards that took place the previous night. Commenting on how inspiring it was to see the children, teachers and mentors being recognised for their achievements. The event was held at the Murrook Cultural Centre and AGL's BESS project were proud sponsors with CP being pleased to hand out some of the awards.</p> <p><b>What's Next:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NPL 5 – T20 final Sunday 20 September</li> <li>▪ Illuminate Raymond Terrace – Saturday 19 September</li> <li>▪ University of Sydney – 30 Chemical and Biomolecular Engineer students touring NGSF Thursday 1 October.</li> <li>▪ 2026 Koori Knockout – 2-5 October</li> <li>▪ Murrook Festival – Saturday 14 November</li> <li>▪ Wahroonga Bush Christmas – Friday 27 November</li> <li>▪ Newcastle Toy Run Family Day – Sunday 6 December</li> </ul> | <p><b>Slide 11</b></p> <p><b>Slide 12</b></p> |
| <b>AGL UPDATE (RC)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FY26 Full-Year Results</li> <li>▪ Summary of AGL's strategy of connecting every customer to a sustainable future and transitioning AGL's energy portfolio</li> <li>▪ Explanation of statutory profit after tax of \$756M</li> <li>▪ Material improvement in business performance demonstrating the resilience of AGL's strategy.</li> <li>▪ Disciplined investment in flexible asset capacity positions through evolving energy markets.</li> <li>▪ Statistics of portfolios over the past 5 years</li> <li>▪ Kwinana Swift Gas 2 Project and development of pipeline.</li> <li>▪ Advantages of Regional Energy Hubs and opportunity for data centre expansion in Hunter Valley, Torrens Island and Latrobe Valley.</li> <li>▪ Battery fleet continuing to perform well delivering \$57M EBITDA contributions for the year.=</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Slide 14</b>                               |

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| <p><b>TOMAGO BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM</b><br/>500MW/2000MWh<br/>(4 hours duration)<br/><b>(CP)</b></p> | <p>CP provided the Tomago BESS presentation:</p> <p><b>Development / Approvals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Traffic Management Plan (Stage 2B) for OSOM loads approved by TfNSW (<i>High Risk OSOM movements still require submission to TfNSW as required under Heavy Vehicle National Law (2013), separate to the Project Approval</i>).</li> <li>▪ Fire Safety Study approved by FRNSW &amp; DPHI.</li> <li>▪ Increase to number of daily and overall escorted OSOM movements sought with DPHI.</li> </ul> <p><b>Construction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ BESS (Fluence) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bulk earthworks complete, rehabilitation ongoing.</li> <li>• “Combislab” pours progressing well.</li> <li>• Substation footings complete.</li> <li>• Battery deliveries expected imminently (September).</li> <li>• Energisation planned for Q1, 2027</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Connection Works (Transgrid) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Switch Bay works well progressed.</li> <li>• Underground cable – trenching has commenced and OPR HDD (<i>Horizontal Directional Drilling</i>) expected to commence by October.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ CP explained the photographs in the slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progression of works on site (aerial shots)</li> <li>• Cable reticulation RMU’s on BESS combislab;</li> <li>• the new switch bay in the existing Transgrid 132kV substation; and</li> <li>• footings and transformer bays for BESS substation</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p><b>Slide 19, 20 &amp; 21</b></p>                       |
| <p><b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b></p>                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BH advised the CDG of the opening of the M1 extension last week. Advising that the northbound on ramp at Tarro interchange will open by the end of the month. Northern section of Old Punt Road will be reconstructed and realigned starting in December.</li> <li>• There has been positive feedback on the works undertaken.</li> <li>• KM congratulated TfNSW on how they have delivered a quality project ahead of schedule.</li> <li>• PLM enquired about ‘boxes’ that are being installed on footpaths outside residences it seems to be classed as critical infrastructure. PLM stated that he has received a lot of complaints from the community. CP commented that they are probably “kiosk substations” installed by Ausgrid.</li> <li>• DP enquired about the RAPs Plan, stating that it was overdue for review. RC committed to providing an update at the next CDG meeting. <b>Action.</b></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p><b>Action: Agenda item for Q4 CDG – RAP’s Plan</b></p> |

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|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PJ advised of the announcement of the longevity of Tomago Aluminium, stating that he will provide more information at future meetings on the facility's future.</li> <li>KM asked BH if Monica &amp; Sonia are still working on the M1 project as he has reached out to them to discuss the TAC pipeline that has to be decommissioned. BH advised that they are and offered to assist if needed to contact them.</li> <li>JF advised that KV had left the online session to attend another meeting, explaining KV's background and that she is an asset for PSKH.</li> </ul> |                |
| <b>NEXT MEETING</b> | Due to some members not being available for 25 <sup>th</sup> November, the CDG has been pushed back one week to Thursday 3 December 2026, still at the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens, commencing at 10am.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Agreed.</b> |

***Meeting closed at 11.26am with LA thanking members for their attendance and contribution.***

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

| <b>ITEM</b> | <b>ISSUE</b>                                                                               | <b>RESPONSIBILITY</b> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1           | ZB to arrange the HRBG Orchid Team to visit the Medowie Offset property to survey the site | ZB/KP                 |
| 2           | Present on RAP's Plan                                                                      | RC                    |