

HTP REGIONAL REFERENCE GROUP

Monday 8 April, 2024 @ 4pm

Via: Teams

Chaired by: Bob Pynsent – Independent Chair

Attendees

| Online                              | In person                | Apology                             | Name                     | Represents  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Bob Pynsent              | Independent Chair                                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Sue Moore                | Mayor<br>Singleton Council                              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Jay Suvaal               | Mayor<br>Cessnock City Council                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Kay Fraser               | Mayor<br>Lake Macquarie City Council                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | John Sullivan            | Singleton LGA community<br>representative               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Phillip O'Neill          | Cessnock LGA community<br>representative                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Diane Crosdale           | Lake Macquarie LGA community<br>representative          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Craig Anderson           | Regional Environment Representative                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Samantha Martin-Williams | Regional Business Representative                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Nathan Towney            | Regional Aboriginal Representative                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Katie Brassil            | RRG Secretariat   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | David Kitto              | Environment and Community Lead HTP                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Kelly Lofberg            | Director Strategic Engagement and<br>Communications HTP |

Declarations of interest

Nil to declare.

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Agenda item discussion and actions

Item 1. Welcome and Acknowledgement

The Chair delivered an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed members to the extraordinary meeting of the RRG.

The Chair advised members of the confidential nature of the information being shared in agenda item 2 and that confidentiality should be maintained until the HTP had submitted the Scoping Report with NSW Planning.

Item 2. HTP update and presentation:

*Presentation by Kelly Lofberg and David Kitto*

The presentation outlined:

- the consultation and engagement process to date.
- feedback received and how it has been reflected in changes to the reference design
- engagement with potentially directly impacted stakeholders and the additional work being undertaken to further minimise impacts which will be ongoing through the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- an overview of the changes that have been able to be achieved and what is still be worked through for HTP North, Central and South was discussed.
- through the EIS transport routes needed, construction logistics and the implications for landowners, road users and businesses will be investigated and further consultation.

Discussion by members included:

- What are the impacts on forests and particularly Olney State Forest?
- What constitutes an impact?
- Does the project look at other projects planned in the area and the potential for cumulative impacts?
- Wollombi Road is being upgraded. Does it overlap with the construction of HTP? The need for awareness of other road upgrades.

- Potential for use of trains for the movement of materials.
- Can affected landowners attend a RRG meeting?
- The need for genuine consultation and the importance of social licence.
- How do impacted communities benefit?
- Mulbring Forum is on Thursday 2 May 5-7pm.

In general response the Environmental Impact Assessment and technical studies will assess in greater detail all these issues and progress will be reported to the RRG and broader community. Mr Kitto reaffirmed the important role the RRG would play in developing both the Biodiversity Offset strategy and Hunter Benefit Sharing package.

### Item 3. Community contact and engagement

A paper outlining options for engagement with the broader community provided the basis for discussion.

It was agreed RRG members can choose to disseminate information or seek feedback through their own networks.

Members were asked to provide an email address to allow the community to contact the RRG.

### Item 4. CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.04pm

### Actions

| Action   | Responsible         | Status  |
|--|---------------------|---------|
| RRG Members to nominate the email address they would like to use for the purposes of the RRG                     | Members/Secretariat | ongoing |
| Provide private landowners in the north, at the May meeting in Singleton, the opportunity to meet/ brief the RRG | Chair               | ongoing |

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Upcoming meetings

The next meeting of the HTP RRG will be held:

Date: Monday 6 May 2024

Time: 2:30 – 4:30pm

Place: Singleton City Council (12-14 Queen Street Singleton)