

# MEETING SUMMARY

## RESOURCES ADVISORY FORUM

<b>MEETING</b>	Number 4
<b>DATE</b>	Thursday 20 October 2016
<b>TIME</b>	1:30 – 4:00pm
<b>VENUE</b>	320 Pitt Street, Sydney – Waratah Room

## MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

**Chair:** Carolyn McNally, Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment

Chris Berry	Canberra Region Joint Organisation (alternate)
Todd Hacking	Cement Concrete and Aggregates Australia
Alicia Webb	Clean Energy Council
Rachel Walmsley	Environmental Defender's Office (alternate)
Kate Smolski	Nature Conservation Council of NSW
Kate Aubrey-Poiner	NSW Aboriginal Land Council (alternate)
Claire Doherty	NSW Minerals Council
Assoc Prof Michael Hitch	UNSW School of Mining Engineering (alternate)

**Apologies:** Mayor Owen Hasler Association of Mining Related Councils (alternate)  
Dr Malcolm Roberts Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association  
Roger Stephen Hunter Joint Organisation  
Adair Moar NSW Farmers  
Jeff Angel Total Environment Centre  
Andrew Hope Namoi Regional Organisation of Councils  
Andy Honeysett Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union

<b>Department of Planning and Environment</b>	Alison Frame	Deputy Secretary, Policy and Strategy
	Marcus Ray	Deputy Secretary, Planning Services
	Alex O'Mara	ED Resources and Industry Policy
	Brendan Nelson	Deputy Secretary, Growth Design and Programs
	David Kitto	ED Resource Assessments & Business Systems
	Oliver Holm	ED Resource Assessments and Compliance
	Oona Nielssen	ED Media, Community and Stakeholder Engagement
	Michelle Wood	ED, Legislative Reform
	Gary White	Chief Planner
	Caitlin Brookes	Stakeholder Relationships Manager
Richard Parsons	Social Impact Assessment (SIA) specialist	

ITEM	ACTIONS
<p>1. <b>Welcome</b></p>	
<p>The Chair welcomed members and alternate delegates and noted apologies. The Chair reminded members about the Terms of Reference and briefly touched on the agenda for the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. <b>Actions arising from previous meeting</b></p>	
<p>The Chair confirmed that the previous Meeting Summary had been finalised and published on the Department's website.</p> <p>There were no further comments from members on the out of session meeting summary from the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) meeting held on 5 October 2016.</p> <p>The Chair ran through the actions from the previous meetings, noting three open items: the Department to update members at key stages of the Legislative Updates process, consultation on draft Proponent Engagement Guidelines and members to contact Oliver Holm at the Department for any further inputs on compliance. All of these items are now closed.</p>	<p>The meeting summary for the EIA meeting on 5 October will be published on the Department's website.</p>
<p>3. <b>Annual reflection</b></p>	
<p><b>Measures of success</b></p> <p>The Department explained the measures of success incorporates member's feedback, no further comments were made.</p> <p><b>Annual reflection</b></p> <p>Members were asked to reflect on the usefulness, relevance and membership of the Resources Advisory Forum. Comments from members in relation to the following questions included:</p> <p>Q1: Has your involvement in the Resources Advisory Forum improved your understanding of the Department's structure, systems and processes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's positive to have the executives from different parts of the Department in the room</li> <li>• General improvement observed</li> <li>• Regular updates to organisation charts and the phone numbers</li> </ul> <p>Q2: Have you had enough opportunities to engage with Senior Executives from the Department on issues and directions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We appreciate that the Department has engaged. It's a good start.</li> <li>• It's useful to identify common issues at a high level</li> <li>• Smaller working groups are most useful</li> <li>• Could be more smaller groups focusing on details of interest</li> </ul>	<p>Department to provide a copy of organisation chart to members.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The mechanism for ongoing dialogue is working well. It's good to get perspectives without focusing on a particular issue</li> <li>• Workshops are well prepared, and well thought out.</li> <li>• Good opportunity to know where the Department is coming from.</li> <li>• The Department needs to get the technology right.</li> </ul> <p>Q3: How useful were the advisory forums?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you – it's been very constructive</li> <li>• Frank discussions</li> <li>• We're better informed</li> <li>• Out of session workshops are great</li> <li>• Extremely effective, we've covered much ground in 12 months</li> <li>• Created engagement with the Department and other groups around the table</li> </ul> <p>Q4: How do you feel about 12 month membership, should it be extended? Do you have suggestions for other people/organisations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maybe Lock the Gate as they are close to impacted communities</li> <li>• Councils are diverse and more Councils on the Resources Advisory Forum is not necessarily the answer</li> <li>• Maybe NSW Farmers?</li> <li>• Balance may not be achieved by adding more community groups</li> <li>• Size is about right</li> <li>• Would like to continue on the Resources Advisory Forum as we feel it's just getting started</li> </ul>	<p>A short annual reflection survey will be sent to members to complete in November.</p> <p>The Department will incorporate members comments into a short report and circulate for comment.</p>
<p>4. <b>Legislative updates and policy update</b></p>	
<p><b>Draft Social Impact Assessment guidelines (SIA)</b></p> <p>The Department provided members with an update on the draft Social Impact Assessment guidelines (SIA) for discussion.</p> <p>Members were asked for their views on the critical elements (and key challenges for) of a good SIA – what makes a social impact 'significant' or 'material' and what methods can you follow to make that assessment.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to go to remote and regional communities. The sessions chaired by John Corrie were some of the best presentations attended.</li> <li>• There needs to be flexibility with methodology, need some structure around this as there is nervousness from the Aboriginal Community. Need to be as flexible as possible, recognising communities are different.</li> <li>• There is a difference between the process being fair but still didn't get outcome desired. Need to make sure you close the loop.</li> </ul>	<p>Members to contact Alex O'Mara at the Department for any further inputs on the draft Social Impact Assessment.</p> <p>The Department will update members when the revised</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is merit in the SIA process, the gap is in how it's assessed.</li> <li>• A draft survey was sent to members for comment ahead of this meeting. No comments were raised at the meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wind energy assessment framework</b></p> <p>Members were asked for their views on the draft wind energy assessment framework. No comments were received.</p> <p>The Department responded it isn't envisaged this group will discuss infrastructure. Solar, wind, quarries is where we were focusing this group. The Department is discussing the necessity of setting up another forum on infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Planning legislation updates</b></p> <p>The Department provided an update on elements of the planning legislation package that relate to resources as well as other areas of interest.</p> <p>Members were asked for their views on the planning legislation updates. Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there a groundswell about part 3a – as it erodes confidence in the system? This is coming from stakeholder groups rather than the community.</li> </ul> <p>The Department noted members concerns.</p>	<p>guidelines have been finalised.</p> <p>Members to contact Alex O'Mara at the Department for any further inputs on the wind energy assessment framework.</p> <p>The Department will update members when the revised framework have been finalised.</p> <p>Members to contact Michelle Wood at the Department for any further inputs on the planning legislation updates.</p>
<p>5. <b>Strategic Planning</b></p>	
<p>The Department notified members the Minister launched the Hunter and Central Coast regional plans last Friday. Final documents are somewhat different to the draft and take into account issues raised.</p> <p>Members were asked if they have reviewed the plans if there were any comments. Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does the regional plans interact with wind farm guidelines? Does it feed into the Visual assessment?</li> </ul> <p>The Department confirmed it doesn't change the level of assessment and may help communities.</p>	<p>Members can contact Brendan Nelson at the Department for any further inputs on strategic planning.</p>

<b>6. Any other business and next steps</b>	
<p><b>Forward work plan 2017</b></p> <p>The forward work plan for 2017 was agreed. It was noted that the forward work plan may change depending on the government's agenda.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on 16 March 2017 and agreed agenda items are listed in the forward work plan for 2017.</p>	<p>Additional suggestions for the forward work plan 2017 are to be sent to Caitlin Brookes.</p> <p>If required contact details for Department staff can be sent from Caitlin Brookes.</p>